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MIKHAYLOV QUESTIONED ON MBFR TALKS CONTINUATION

AU141010 Vienna Domestic Service in German 0600 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Report by Austrian radio correspondent Roland Machatschke on lecture given by Ambassador Valeriy Mikhaylov, USSR delegation leader at the Vienna MBFR talks, at the Austrian-Soviet Friendship Society in Vienna on 13 December -- recorded Mikhaylov comments in Russian with superimposed translation]

[Text] A great deal of anti-American and anti-Western rhetoric; emphasis on the Soviet Union as a peace-loving state that has allegedly never attacked any other state; the Soviet Union presented as a country which for reasons of its own security is compelled to arm, thus making up for a Western lead in armaments; Soviet SS-20 missiles do nothing more than establish an arms equilibrium in Europe and do not at all constitute an advance armament of the East, to which the West was allegedly compelled to respond with its arms buildup -- all this was the well-known line along which Ambassador Mikhaylov's arguments proceeded. The Soviet Union will only return to Geneva after the other side has returned to the situation that existed before the deployment, that is, after the medium-range weapons already stationed in the FRG, Italy, and Breat Britain have been dismantled, with no new ones to be deployed in these countries.

Here is an interesting modification: The U.S. medium-range weapons are strategic systems; this means they must be put in the same class as intercontinental missiles and hence must be included in the pertinent talks. One might draw the conclusion from this remark that even though the Soviet Union does not wish to resume negotiations on medium-range missiles, it does want to include these weapons systems in the talks on reducing strategic weapons, that is, in the efforts described in the West as the START negotiations. This would imply, however, that the Soviet Union wishes to return to at least one of the Geneva negotiating tables.

As far as the Vienna troop reduction talks are concerned, talks which have been dragging on for 10 years without success, Ambassador Mikhaylov's answer to a question on whether the negotiations will be continued after the Christmas recess is quite unambiguous:

[Begin Mikhaylov recording] In this context, I would like to say in principle that the negotiations will continue after the Christmas recess. The socialist countries have their own views and proposals in this respect, but since this topic has not been discussed at the plenary session, I would not like to take an official position on this yet. [end recording]

This, it would appear that conjectures that Moscow wishes to also withdraw from the Vienna talks are untrue.

Immediately following the start of the NATO arms buildup, the Warsaw Pact initiated its oft-announced countermeasures. It is particularly since the conference of the Warsaw Pact defense ministers in Sofia last week that reports have fluttered through the media time and again that these countermeasures will include the deployment of Soviet short-range missiles not only on the territories of the GDR and CSSR as earlier announced, but also in Poland and Bulgaria. There have even been references to the stationing of SS-20 medium-range missiles in Warsaw Pact states, something which would have indicated a considerable exacerbation of the situation. Ambassador Mikhaylov's reply is also clear in this respect:

[Begin Mikhaylov recording] Anyone who has followed the various statements, including the announcement made by Yuriy Andropov on 24 November of this year, and who has also heard the other official statements made by our government, knows that the countermeasures being adopted to safeguard peace and security include the deployment of missiles on the territories of the GDR and CSSR. These will not involve SS-20 missiles, however, but some other missiles -- I cannot yet say exactly which ones. But in any case they will be stationed and targeted within range of the U.S. missile bases. [end recording]

The doors for negotiations between the East and West have not yet been closed finally, Ambassador Mikhaylov went on to say, and the Soviet Union, too, is fully aware that a military confrontation with the United States would destroy both countries.

'DEMAGOGUERY' SEEN IN NITZE INF REMARKS

PM131729 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Dec 83 First Edition p 5

[Editorial Article: "Disinformers at Work"]

[Text] Day after day U.S. State Department spokesmen, together with other officials, repeat the same old thing -- the American delegation, they say, is ready at any time to return to the Geneva talks on nuclear arms in Europe; some of its members are still in Geneva and the others can get there in 24 hours. P. Nitze, former [as published] leader of the U.S. delegation at the talks in Geneva, which were torpedoed by the American side, is particularly zealous in making statements on this score. Having made the rounds of European capitals on his propaganda mission, this time Nitze has continued the same old impassioned speeches before journalists in Washington.

The American side and its spokesmen are consciously resorting to demagoguery in stating their "readiness to return to the talks at any time." Talks about what? Has the situation changed? Does the head of the U.S. delegation now have new instructions and a position other than the unconstructive and absolutely unrealistic position that the United States occupied in Geneva from the first day of the talks to the last? No, nothing has changed. It is merely that now a "readiness" to hold talks is being displayed to the accompaniment of the Pershings and cruise missiles deployed in certain NATO countries. The head of the American delegation, of all people, knew full well -- and the Soviet side repeatedly warned the United States of this -- that the continuation of the Geneva talks would become pointless and impossible with the appearance of new American missiles in West Europe. Not an increase in medium-range nuclear facilities in Europe but a substantial reduction in them on the basis of the principles of equality and equal security -- that would be the true aim of the talks if they were to be conducted seriously.

The unscrupulous assertions coming out of all the cracks in Washington about the American "constructive approach" to the Geneva talks are being made for quite definite purposes. An attempt is being made, first, to absolve the United States of the responsibility for the breakdown of the talks and cosmeticize the American position and, second, to quell the growing wave of the antiwar movement. In Europe and the United States people are becoming increasingly aware of the dangerous line toward which they are being pushed by the Washington administration's actions, which are exacerbating the danger of a nuclear catastrophe. The December session of NATO organs in Brussels confirmed the timetable for the siting of American missiles in Europe. Therefore P. Nitze's placatory statements cannot deceive anybody.

The problem can be gotten out of the deadlock into which the United States has driven it. The path toward this has been signposted by the Soviet Union.

Its essence is spelled out in the statement by Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. "If the United States and other NATO countries display a readiness to return to the situation that existed prior to the beginning of the siting of the American medium-range missiles in Europe," this document states, "the Soviet Union will also be prepared to do this."

NITZE USING 'FANTASTIC DATA' ON NUCLEAR AIRCRAFT

LD132035 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1610 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow 13 Dec (TASS) -- TASS military affairs observer Vladimir Bogachev writes:

When representatives of the White House and the Pentagon justify their absurd conclusions about "the U.S. strategic lag behind the USSR," without a twinge of conscience they include the Soviet "Backfire" medium bomber among the USSR's strategic means (see for example the U.S. pamphlet "Soviet Military Power," 1981, page 61). But this does not prevent them from occasionally including the same plane also among the nonstrategic weapons taken into account at the talks on medium-range nuclear means.

Such double bookkeeping is typical in the accounts of the sides' balance of nuclear forces published by the present U.S. Administration. However, it is aircraft that for some reason are the favorite object of the Reagan administration representatives' most unrestrained falsifications.

At yesterday's Washington press conference, Paul Nitze, who led the U.S. delegation at the talks on the limitation of nuclear weapons in Europe, again tried to cast doubt on generally-known figures describing the approximate parity of NATO and Warsaw Pact nuclear forces in Europe.

Nitze gave truly fantastic data on the correlation of the quantity of nuclear armed aircraft in Europe. Without batting an eye, he turned NATO's actual one-and-a-half times superiority over the USSR in medium-range carrier-aircraft into a five-times advantage of the Soviet Union.

As is known, the Soviet Union also includes aircraft with a range of 1,000 km and more (but not intercontinental ones) within the European medium-range systems. It is precisely these planes, which take off from the territory of West European NATO countries or from aircraft carriers in seas adjacent to those countries, which are capable of hitting vitally important centers on the territory of the Soviet Union. No one up to now has seriously disputed the logic of such a criterion.

The American side, having reluctantly agreed finally to discuss the question of aircraft at the talks, tried to include among Soviet medium-range systems, apart from Soviet medium bombers, auxiliary bombers as well, which have never carried and cannot carry nuclear weapons. At the same time the U.S. representatives at Geneva insisted on excluding from the calculations whole categories of American forward-based aircraft, which through their tactical and technical data can reach important centers on the territory of the USSR.

If the Soviet Union really has a five-times superiority over NATO in medium-range carrier-aircraft, as Nitze is claiming, then one cannot understand why the American side, over a period of years, has virtually refused to discuss the question of a reduction in such aircraft at the Geneva talks. What's it all about, Mr Nitze?

RETURN TO 'STATUS QUO ANTE PERSHING' SOUGHT

PM131655 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 5

[Editorial Article: "Sobering Response"]

[Text] The world is continuing to discuss Yu. V. Andropov's statement. The attention paid to this document of very great importance for the future of international relations is growing. In the socialist countries the steps proclaimed in the statement have been welcomed as a firm manifestation of the resolve to protect their peoples' security and peaceful life from possible encroachments. In June 1983 the leaders of seven socialist states said that under no circumstances would they allow the NATO bloc military superiority over the Warsaw Pact countries. Yu.V. Andropov's statement is the realization of the pledge.

The Soviet Union's new positions set forth by Yu.V. Andropov have also become the main foreign policy topic in the West. But the days are passing by, and the United States and it allies are still seeking an answer to the new questions set by life, which are of decisive importance to the destiny of peace. Meanwhile, the operation to inundate Europe with highly dangerous nuclear weapons is continuing according to the Pentagon's schedule.

The attempts of some U.S. press organs to continue even in the new situation their drum rolls glorifying the present U.S. Administration's "statesmanship" are truly astounding. "President Reagan," THE WALL STREET JOURNAL writes, "has won the battle to deploy the U.S. missiles." Against whom, we may ask, have the White House and Pentagon grenadiers won this battle? Against the allied governments of the FRG, Britain, and Italy? Have they won in the parliamentary battlefield in those countries? Have they used their overwhelming forces to break their peoples' resistance? As we know, the legendary King Pyrrhus also once "won" a victory, but what did he have left afterward?

THE NEW YORK TIMES describes very realistically the situation that took shape after Reagan's latest "victory." "While the Governments of West Germany, Britain, and Italy support Washington," the newspapers writes, "their peoples, as public opinion polls show do not support it, by a substantial majority at that. In addition, in Belgium and the Netherlands, where the deployment of missiles is soon to begin, there is evidently no support from either government or people."

Let us leave to the conscience of THE NEW YORK TIMES the reference to polls, and not to the far more eloquent antinuclear demonstrations with their many millions of participants. The thrust of the matter is the same.

For the Moscow correspondent of the West German newspaper KOLNER STADT-ANZEIGER, "the most notable thing" in Yu.V. Andropov's statement was the fact that it pointed to the responsibility borne, together with the U.S. Administration, by the FRG, British, and Italian Governments for the consequences of their dangerous policy. Yet how could it be otherwise? Can we consider these governments not responsible "because they know not what they do?" Can they be vindicated because of their lack of independence from Washington? No. However heavy the burden of potentially tragic complicity, it must be borne. The burden of responsibility for the deterioration of the situation in Europe, for the disregard of the most clearly expressed opinion of their own peoples and the security interests of their own country.

The retaliatory steps by the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries still had a somewhat sobering effect on the newfound claimants to world rule. "These measures," THE NEW YORK TIMES noted, "were tougher than some high-ranking U.S. Administration officials expected."

The Americans are already beginning to understand, in terms of their territory's security, the difference between the situation that existed prior to the deployment of their missiles in Western Europe and the situation that will exist if Washington does not renounce its chase after the chimera of military superiority. There are fewer and fewer people in the United States blinded by great-power chauvinism, people who believe that nuclear war, if launched, would bypass the United States, that they would succeed in fighting merely "to the last European." It is now not only Western Europe that has been turned into the hostage of the Pentagon's adventurist plans; the U.S. population itself is becoming the hostage of the present administrations' reckless policy.

The increased understanding of the situation is obliging the U.S. and NATO propaganda machine to undertake defensive operations to indoctrinate public opinion in its own countries. What the Western press terms "reassuring tactics" have been adopted. It is loudly proclaimed that even in the new situation the Geneva talks on nuclear arms limitation in Europe could suddenly "return to normal" and that the Soviet Union, which allegedly broke them off, will "change its mind."

The first component in this spurious campaign is the unceremonious laying of the blame for ending the dialogue in Geneva at someone else's door. The Soviet Union repeatedly declared that the appearance of new American missiles in West Europe would make it impossible to continue the Geneva talks on nuclear arms in Europe. If some people in the West did not believe the firmness of that stand, then the wrecking of the talks was the price of that error.

The second component consists in the dissemination of the thesis of the possibility of holding talks while keeping Pershing II and cruise missiles at bases and depots in West Europe. The fallacious idea is suggested that the chances of reaching agreement are identical on any new twist in the nuclear arms race. However, Yu.V. Andropov's statement clearly says that the Soviet Union will be prepared to return to the situation which existed prior to the start of the deployment of American medium-range missiles in Europe only if the United States and the other NATO countries display the same readiness What is required, as ancient lawyers would have put it, is the "status quo ante Pershing" -- a return to the situation "before the Pershings."

Meanwhile, not stinting assurances of their desire to resume the Geneva talks, spokesmen for the American Administration, followed by the FRG, British, and Italian Governments, assiduously avoid talk of this indispensable condition. They seek all kinds of loopholes in order both to preserve the new missile bases and to acquire peacemaking capital. For this, in particular, they propagandize the idea that it will supposedly be possible to continue holding talks by imparting some different aspect to them. And yet Washington wrecked the talks by deploying new missiles. You cannot alter the consequences without removing the causes -- that would seem to be clear.

Of course, no one rules out the possibility of discussing problems of nuclear arms in Europe. On condition that the previous situation is restored, the specific proposals submitted previously by the Soviet Union on these questions would once again acquire force. Let us recall their substance.

In the sphere of nuclear arms in Europe the USSR was prepared for a genuine zero option, whereby Europe would be totally rid of both medium-range and tactical nuclear weapons. The USSR even agreed to start with a major quantitative reduction of nuclear arms, whereby both sides -- the USSR and the NATO bloc -- would have an equal, but minimal, number of medium-range missiles and aircraft, as well as charges on those carriers. The USSR also agreed to leave in the European zone only 140 SS-20 missile launchers, that is, appreciably fewer than Britain and France have.

As is known, in response to those proposals the United States preferred to begin realizing its program for the nuclear rearmament of NATO, forcing the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries to take countermeasures dictated by their vital security interests.

The world public has not overlooked the important fact that these measures are not aimed at achieving military superiority. As Yu. V. Andropov's statement emphasized, they will be maintained strictly within the limits dictated by the NATO countries' actions. The Soviet Union will not begin, as it has never begun, a single new twist in the nuclear arms race spiral.

Through the statement of Yu. V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the Soviet people and the Soviet power say to the West: It is still not too late to adopt sensible decisions, it is still possible to protect the present generation and future generations from the threat of nuclear war hanging over the world.

WESTERN VIEW OF INF 'BALANCE' REJECTED

PM131214 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Dec 83 Second Edition p 3

[Article by V. Bogachev, TASS observer for military questions: "Parity Will Be Maintained"]

[Text] At the now-ended Brussels session of the NATO Military Planning Committee, the participants doubtless occupied themselves with their routine affairs. No doubt the United States strove to pulverize its allies into granting new appropriations for military purposes and demanded that the West Europeans adopt far-reaching commitments to participate in U.S. adventures "outside the sphere of operation of the North Atlantic alliance," that is, virtually throughout the world. No doubt the West Europeans held out timidly, complaining of "scanty resources" and the "difficult economic situation," and demanded their share in the distribution of order for the production of NATO weapons.

The NATO planners no doubt shed crocodile tears, particularly in connection with the "violation of the military balance" as a result of the Soviet Union's deployment of SS-20 medium-range missiles. Yet the appearance of these Soviet missiles in no way upset the approximate parity of the sides in Europe. For every two SS-20's deployed, the USSR simultaneously removed three SS-4's or SS-5'S. Whereas before the deployment of SS-20's the USSR had around 600 medium-range missiles, now it has 473. Moreover, the yield of the SS-20 charges is lower than that of the old SS-4 and SS-5 missiles. As a whole, the yield of all the charges on Soviet medium-range missiles has been almost halved.

In terms of the number of nuclear charges on medium-range missiles in the USSR's European zone, the USSR does indeed outstrip NATO. However, in terms of the overall number of nuclear charges on all medium-range carriers (not only on missiles but also on aircraft) as a whole, NATO has a 50-percent advantage.

Since March 1982, when the Soviet Union declared a unilateral moratorium, no missiles or or aircraft carrying medium-range nuclear weapons have been deployed in the European USSR.

The new U.S. Pershing II and cruise missiles in West Europe posed a threat to the existing parity on a European and a global scale. It is for this reason that the Soviet Union announced the adoption of forced countermeasures, aimed at maintaining the military balance, following the onset of deliveries of U.S. missiles to Britain, the FRG, and Italy.

The NATO bosses' allegations that the stocks of nuclear ammunition in West Europe will reach "the lowest level in the last 20 years" in the near future are also groundless. Indeed, in 1984-89 the United States does plan to remove from Europe some of the outdated warheads for the Pershing I and Honest John missiles, old 202.2-mm artillery shells, aerial bombs, and mines. However, to replace this "scrap metal," as the Western press calls these fifties-produced devices, the United States intends to bring into West Europe by 1990 7,000 new warheads for Pershing II and cruise missiles, neutron ammunition for Lance missiles and 155-mm and 203.2-mm howitzers, and MK-61 bombs.

The socialist community has never set itself the task of attaining military superiority. But neither will the Warsaw Pact countries permit the violation of the existing parity either on a global scale or in Europe.

REAGAN RULES IN NUCLEAR 'CHESS TRIAD' 'MOCKERY'

PM131313 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 4

[Valentin Falin "Political Observer's Opinion": "Triple Gambit"]

[Text] "I don't mind chess, but we are being used as a chessboard," Neil Kinnock, the British Labor leader said in connection with the breakdown of the Geneva talks. It is possible that this metaphor occurred to him because of the elimination matches currently being played in London to determine who will challenge the reigning champion. But, of course, the roots of his black humor lie elsewhere -- in alarm about a future without a future for his own country, which is what siting U.S. first strike weapons in Europe amounts to.

Let's take up N. Kinnock's invitation and dip into the world of chess. Here too, the Washington administration would like to proceed from a position of strength. Because of these considerations -- which are not merely of a racial nature -- it has chosen to play white. The Soviet Union, correspondingly, has been assigned to play black. That in itself would not be too bad because, as everyone knows, it is the open move that decides the outcome. It is R. Reagan's plan to "improve" the rules of chess so that the white pieces can move freely into the opponent's field and besiege his king, while the black pieces get stuck forever somewhere along the fith rank. This translates from the neo-American as "equal limits," while according to generally accepted criteria of common sense it is a mockery.

The great schemer himself [reference to Ostap Bander in "Twelve Chairs" by Ilf and Petrov] did not take such liberties during his stay in new Vasyuki. But the country of "unlimited opportunities" must not stop halfway or be content with a draw.

In the military sphere a draw spells parity or, in other words, identical security. Parity, moreover, does not necessarily mean a thousand against a thousand. It can also mean ten against ten, or zero against zero. But a genuine zero, and not a sham one, For instance, zero of all types of medium-range nuclear means in Europe, or zero military activity by nuclear powers in the Indian Ocean. The creation of nuclear-free zones could also be an important component of efforts to reduce to zero the threat of a nuclear conflict.

But no, that does not suit Washington. Washington wants not equality but indisputable superiority. "We are in a state of war," Reagan has said, "and we are losing...simply because we are not aware that we are at war. And there can only be one outcome to war...: You either win or lose."

Defense Secretary C. Weinberger is hastening to translate the President's general objective into "defense directives": "The United States must win (nuclear war) and be able to force the Soviet Union to seek an early end to the war on terms favorable to the United States."

If there is no chance to checkmate the opponent according to conventional rules, you must invent new ones. Forget about being gentlemanly. If the spearhead attack [ataka svineyj] (to use a crusaders' term) does not work, try an outflanking maneuver, or starve the enemy to death. Ultimately "the United States and its allies must declare economic and technological war on the Soviet Union," C. Weinberger tells us. Where a simple queen's gambit does not hold out success, try something new in the shape of a triple gambit. That is to say, create a chess triad in which cruise missiles pass as pawns, Pershings as knights, and MX and Trident missiles as rooks and bishops and -- this is most important -- in which all three can attack simultaneously, placing the opponent in a hopeless situation (sugzwang, in chess terms).

The question remains open: Who is going to play with Washington according to such rules? Its West European allies? But as N. Kinnock noted bitterly, they are not taking part in the match; they are not even spectators. They are merely the squares on the chessboard where the battle would take place should it come to a decisive contest. They are those "forward positions" by means of which the U.S. leaders -- while the "impenetrable shield in space" exists only in their imagination -- would like to cordon off some of the dangers engendered by the confrontation so dear to their hearts.

M. Deaver, White House deputy chief of staff, has said of his President: He is "the only guy I have ever met who does not weigh up circumstances. His ideas come from the depths of his soul." That is true. The world has repeatedly had occasion to see for itself that the U.S. head of state is out of step with circumstances, while his soul is troubled by demons making him pour forth one profound idea after another.

"The United States, " R. Reagan is suggesting, "must never again find itself in the position which it experienced repeatedly in the past, when it pledged not to undertake certain steps and was then bound to keep its promise." Complete freedom in making decisions and taking action, including preemptive strikes using nuclear weapons against other countreis, has been added to the inalienable qualities of the American way of life. In the view of the U. S. Administration chief, the United States can acquire this freedom provided it is strong enough and throws out legal norms, treaties, and agreements which restrict the Americans in one way or another. The ultimate wish is to combine crushing might with complete invulnerability, particularly for the United States. And for the sake of this it does not mind plowing up half or even nine-tenths of the planet with the nuclear plow.

And there is one more question: Who will allow the United States to practice such arbitrariness with impunity? It appears that its NATO allies are prepared to put on the militarist yoke and to drag it wherever they are commanded. FRG Chancellor H. Kohl has thought up an interesting label for this exercise -- struggle for "peace in conditions of freedom." He is imitating K. Adenauer who, swapping German unity for the rearmament of West Germany, prophesied a struggle for "reunification in conditions of freedom." The result of that political deception is well know. The present one is even more perfidious, however. The reckless NATO gamblers rate narrow social self-interest higher than the interests of peace. Either "Peace in conditions of freedom: as the latter is interpreted on the banks of the Potomac, the Seine, and the Thames, or... what?

The ominous silence that follows may mean the same old thing -- unless we have our way, we shall slam the door, so there...The legendary Noah was of a more generous disposition. He let all the pairs, clean and unclean, into his ark. But for Reagan and people of his persuasion the pre-nuclear Noah is no model to be emulated.

Comrade Yu.V. Andropov characterized the U.S. plans to achieve military superiority in order to be able to dictate its will to other peoples and states as unrealizable, and Washington's hopes of deflecting a retaliatory strike from its own territory by deploying medium-range missiles in Europe as illusory. The Soviet Union will not allow the military equilibrium to be disrupted and will adopt the measures necessary to ensure the security of the USSR and the other socialist community countries.

Consequently, circumstances will have to be taken into account, despite the fact that the imperialist soul thirsts for piquant sensations and regards coexistence as too insipid an occupation. The security of the United States and the other NATO members will equal that which they are prepared to let the socialist countries have, and their freedom of action in the world arena will be precisely the same as that which they recognize for the whole side. Stable and reliable international security can be built only on the basis of stable principles which are identical for all, and just as road safety demands the observance of the same rules by everybody.

On the other hand, where double standards are introduced, where objectivity gives way to whim, and where ideological self-conceit wipes out life experience, politics ceases to be the art of the possible and a method for combining heterogenous interests for the sake of a common aim. Averting a nuclear catastrophe -- this should be the aim today. The situation becomes complicated if imperialist leaders refuse to recognize the existence of a common aim, if in NATO even peace is subjected to spectral analysis to see whether there are not too many red or reddish stripes in it. All that can be done in this case is to rely on the self-preservation instinct hoping that, given the lack of common sense, this instinct will restrain Washington from taking irreparable steps.

Well, these are the thought associations to which the chess theme suggested by N. Kinnock has led, though, frankly speaking, politics and chess essentially have little in common. Serious politics is no game. In politics the match in practice never ends, and wrong moves are immeasurably harder to put right.

GRIBKOV ON 'DEFENSIVE NATURE' OF PACT MISSILES

AU131311 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 10/11 Dec 83 p 5

[Article by Army General Anatoliy Gribkov, chief of staff and first deputy commander in chief of the Joint Armed Forces: "The Defensive Nature of the Military Countermeasures of the Warsaw Pact"]

[Text] The openly militaristic policy of the Reagan administration and of some NATO allies of the United States has heated up the world situation to the extreme. The nature of this policy consists in the attempt to secure the dominant position in the world for the United States regardless of the interests of other states and peoples. The unparalleled military preparations are aimed at this end, preparations whose objective is military superiority over the USSR, reinforcement of the U.S. military presence in all major world areas, the creation of hotbeds of tension everywhere, and the carrying out of one adventure after another.

Directly or through its satellites the United States is waging an undeclared war against the Afghan revolution, conducting military operations against the Lebanese people, engaging in genocide in El Salvador, threatening Nicaragua and Cuba with military intervention, and has carried out a criminal attack against the sovereign state of Grenada.

Washington Acting Against Common Sense

Naturally, the U.S. policy has been aggressive earlier, too. Since the end of World War II the United States has used military force 262 times in various regions of the world in order to achieve its foreign policy objectives. But the aggressive orientation of its foreign policy has become particularly clearly visible in the present administration's pattern of activity. "One must really doubt whether anything at all can prevent Washington from crossing that borderline before which any thinking man ought to stop," Yuriy Andropov stated on 28 September 1983.

Reagan and his administration are even now openly calling for the elimination of communism and for throwing it "into the dustbin of history," because they regard it as the main obstacle on their road to world domination. But they obviously have still failed to realize that socialism is no longer just a theory but an objective reality. There are already dozens of states on almost all continents with tremendous economic potential and with hundreds of millions of inhabitants which cannot simply be thrown into the "dustbin" and even less so be converted to the American creed. Practice has shown that in the past, crusades against communism have always ended with the "crusaders" themselves landing in the dustbins of history. It naturally would be possible to ignore such appeals if the statements of the U.S. Administration that run counter to common sense were not supported by actions, above all, in the military sphere. As before, Washington is relying primarily on military force in solving international problems. On 13 September 1983 the U.S. Congress decided to appropriate the enormous sum of $280 billion for military programs in the 1984 fiscal year. The United States in the years 1985-89 intends to spend $2 trillion for another round of the arms race.

NATO Arms Buildup and Aggressive Military Doctrine

In addition to boosting the nuclear potential and creating basically new means of armed combat, the United States and its allies are perfecting and augmenting convential weapons at a stepped-up pace. The military doctrine of the United States and of the NATO bloc is becoming more and more aggressive. Concepts of a "limited," "general," and "protracted" nuclear war have been worked out. It was announced that victory in such a war is possible. The armed forces are being trained for an aggressive war. Qualitatively new tasks are being established in maneuvers that envisage a preventive strike "into the entire defenses of the enemy," that is, the Soviet Union and the socialist community, as well as the "maximum destruction of his forces before he is in a position to respond."

Recently the Governments of the FRG, Great Britain, and Italy finally decided, contrary to the will of their peoples, in favor of deploying U.S. medium-range missiles in their respective countries. Thus, the deployment of the U.S. Pershing II missiles and of cruise missiles on the European Continent has become an accomplished fact.

New U.S. Missiles Aggravate the Global Situation

These missiles are not being deployed in order to protect Europe. They are targeted at peaceful towns, industrial projects, and everything that the peoples of our fraternal countries have created in peaceful work. This is a direct threat to their security, an antipeace step of momentous consequence.

The communique of the 20 October Berlin session of the defense ministers of the Warsaw Pact member-states this year underscored: "The deployment of new U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe inevitably leads to dangerous exacerbation of the entire situation on the continent and in the world as well as to an increase in the danger of a nuclear war with catastrophic consequences for the peoples." This peril is becoming a reality for the European peoples.

Even the U.S. newspaper BOSTON GLOBE, which certainly has no reputation for sympathy with socialism, noted recently that the stationing of the U.S. cruise and Pershing II missiles in the NATO countries "lifts the arms race to a new technological threshold behind which nuclear war is becoming more likely and arms control more difficult."

The U.S. Pershing and cruise missiles are not only first strike weapons, but are strategic weapons with respect to the Warsaw Pact States. With their tactical-technical data (range, flying speed, accuracy, explosive power, and other parameters) they are intended to secure implementation of the Pentagon's scenarios for a nuclear war.

Fraternal States Will Not Jeopardize Their Security.

Diversified arguments, such as the need for "complementary armament" or "countermeasures to the modernization of Soviet medium-range missiles, the existence of "windows of vulnerability" and finally the worn-out myth of a "Soviet military threat" have been advanced beyond the ocean in order to back their militaristic course. But none of these arguments agrees with reality.

First, and this has been underscored several times at the highest level, the existence of an approximate equilibrium between the forces of the Warsaw Pact and of NATO has been generally recognized. Second, it is well known that no threat springs from the Soviet Union. When the Soviet people, as has been the case several times in the past, were compelled to take up arms, they did it because they were forced to do so in order to defend their freedom, independence, and the inviolability of their borders.

Proof of the Soviet Union's sincere aspirations for peace is its determination to prevent the world from slipping into a nuclear catastrophe. The USSR's peace position has been reaffirmed in Yuriy Andropov's statement of 24 November: "The Soviet Union declares with every possible determination and firmness that as previously it remains loyal to the principled course toward halting the arms race, first and foremost the nuclear arms race, and toward reducing and finally completely eliminating the danger of a nuclear war. It will also in the future do all it can to achieve these noble aims."

The United States and its allies, however, are least concerned about peace, disarmament, mankind's liberation from the constant fear of living under nuclear threat. They are hurrying to deploy the American missiles in Europe as quickly as possible. What can the Warsaw Pact states do under these conditions? Can they risk their security? No, they cannot and will not do so.

Carefully considering all the aspects of the situation which has arisen, the states of the socialist community see themselves compelled to take additional measures for their security. These measures are primarily intended to preserve the balance of power between NATO and the Warsaw Pact Organization, an important factor of stability in the world, and create a corresponding counterweight to the growing strength of NATO's nuclear armaments in Europe.

It was decided to lift the moratorium on the deployment of Soviet nuclear medium-range missiles in the USSR's European region. Work for deploying operational-tactical longer-range missiles on the territories of the GDR and CSSR will be accelerated.

Combat Readiness of Joint Armed Forces Enhanced

Envisaged are appropriate countermeasures that concern the territory of the United States itself. As a result of this the danger to the United States and the West European countries where the deployment of the new missiles is planned will be equal to the danger to which the United States intends to subject the Soviet Union and its allies. Taking into consideration the growing need for collective defense, measures for the further development and improvement of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member states will be taken which correspond to the new nature of war preparations of the NATO bloc and to that threat which arises to the security of the countries of the socialist community.

Among other things, the combat readiness of the Joint Armed Forces for the repulsion of a possible aggression by the opponent and their ability to meet the tasks in an exceptional situation will be increased. To this end the equipment of the allied troops and fleets will be improved with the most modern technical equipment and weapons, their organizational structure will be perfected and the time for accomplishing combat readiness in informations and units, especially in air defense and the air forces, will be shortened. Measures are being taken to enhance the combat training of the ground, air, and naval forces.

Dictated by the Concern for Peace

We are paying particular attention to perfecting the training of the leading organs, groups of formations, and formations to carry out those specific tasks which may arise in the event of war being unleashed by an aggressor.

An important link of the total activity within the framework of the Joint Armed Forces will be safeguarding a high revolutionary vigilance concerning the aggressive subversive activities and ideological subversion of imperialism. This is our proven and reliable weapon. We shall continue to strengthen the militant bond of the fraternal armies and enhance the cohesion of the Joint Armed Forces.

It must be particularly emphasized that these measures do not aim to achieve military superiority over the United States and the NATO bloc and will not be detrimental to the security of other peoples. They are of a purely defensive nature, are dictated by the concern for peace and do not exceed the extent necessary for a secure defense.

However, we do need a strong, reliable defense capable of containing the forces of war, and which rules out all attempts by the aggressors to test this defense for firmness. The modern aspirants to world rule should not forget the lessons of history. All their machinations would be followed, as in the past, by inevitable and destructive reprisal.

IZVESTIYA'S MATVEYEV SCORES NATO 'REASSURANCE'

PM141117 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 5

[Vikentiy Matveyev "Political Observer's Opinion": "Operation 'Reassurance'"]

[Text] Not one communique which has seen the light of day as a result of sessions of NATO's leadership organs has been without phrases and declarations in favor of dialogue and talks with our country and the other socialist countries. Only the dosage of such phrases has changed. The dose has largely depended on the mood of the public in the West. As a rule, on encountering an upsurge in the antiwar movement in their own countries, the NATO chiefs have increased the dose, and vice versa.

You would think that even the most politically thick-skinned figures in the NATO camp must now be forced to draw the conclusion that the start of the deployment of new U.S nuclear missiles in West Europe, far from quelling the wave of widespread, stormy public demonstrations against NATO's militarist preparations, has strengthened the participants in such actions in their determination to defend European peace.

There are many indications of such determination on the part of wide strata of the public in the FRG, Britain, and Italy, where the stationing of the new American missiles has already begun. I take the liberty of quoting what Mary Kaldor, a journalist well known in Britain for her articles on international issues. She wrote the other day in a London magazine: "The peace movement will not die out because of the arrival of the new missiles. When we see on our television screens British paratroopers face to face with British women at Greenham Common or Italian police beating up Italian demonstrators at Comiso, when Heseltine (the British defense secretary) declares his readiness to use arms against those who are opposing the cruise missiles, it looks as if these missiles are directed not against the USSR, but against us, against the participants in the peace movement in the West.

"The appearance of these missiles causes us to feel even greater indignation."

The strongest wave of the antimissile movement in West Europe is still to come, and NATO's propaganda services are fussing about how to greet fully armed the new cohorts of peace supporters.

It is in this light that many observers, even in the Western bourgeois press, assess the references to the "desirability of dialogue" and the "speediest resumption of the talks on intermediate-range missiles" which appear in the concluding documents of the recent NATO Council session in Brussels.

NATO Headquarters did indeed decide to increase the dose of "peacemaking phraseology" this time. A declaration in this spirit was adopted in Brussels. The declaration asserts, in the name of the NATO countries' foreign ministers: "We call on the Warsaw Pact countries to make use of the opportunities we offer for the attainment of balanced, constructive relations and genuine detente." How about that! Even the word "detente" has once again entered the NATO vocabulary, it appears!

In fact what we are looking at is an empty nutshell which cracks at the slightest pressure. The declaration contains no practical proposals to back up the verbal veneer concerning "dialogue" and "talks." There is no need for the NATO leaders to hammer at an open door and call on us and the other Warsaw Pact countries to take constructive steps. This year alone the Warsaw Pact countries have twice put concrete proposals to the Western countries with the aim of achieving agreements on a number of important issues of strengthening the foundations of peace in Europe and beyond. The Brussels declaration mentions none of these proposals, although the NATO leaders stated that they are "studying" them.

If you examine this new propaganda work from NATO Headquarters you find that once again it pretends that the British and French nuclear arsenals do not exist, although those countries' foreign ministers were directly involved in preparing this document. At the same time, in his Brussels speech Mr Cheysson, speaking on behalf of France, dwelt with a stubbornness worthy of a better cause on the theme of the "need to observe the equilibrium of forces" in Europe.

In Brussles too, a "report of the special group" on the Geneva talks was published, and it contains striking assertions to the effect that "progress was achieved on a number of important problems" at the talks. But if that was indeed the case, what was stopping the United States from deciding not to start deploying its new missiles in West Europe, for the sake of reaching agreement in Geneva?

RECENT NATO MEETING, DISARMAMENT IMPASSE VIEWED

FM121431 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Dec 83 First Edition p 5

[Yuriy Zhukov: "International Review"]

[Text] The past week was full of events of major international importance.

The Soviet Union, the fraternal countries, and all peace-loving forces made mounting efforts to stop a new and very dangerous round of the nuclear arms race, initiated by the United States and NATO despite nationwide protests, and to extinguish seats of local wars kindled by imperialism.

Naked Imperialism

Reading the news agency dispatches arriving in the editorial office in a heavy, uninterrupted stream this week, you involuntarily recall the words, fully of angry irony, uttered 63 years ago by V.I. Lenin at a meeting of the Russian Communist Party (Bolsheviks) Moscow organization aktiv: "We are faced with utterly naked imperialism which does not even consider it necessary to clothe itself in anything, believing itself magnificent as it is."

Perhaps never before have the leaders of the biggest imperialist power allowed themselves such provocative actions with respect to all countries and peoples without exception. When U.S. President R. Reagan was reminded at a press conference that 108 UN states do not share his opinion that the U.S. intervention in Grenada was "a timely operation," as he put it, the President replied with a smile: "One hundred UN countries disagree with us on almost every issue submitted for their examination when we are involved. But that doesn't make me lose my appetite."

But the more clearly the far-reaching plans of these crusaders dreaming of transforming the whole world into a U.S. empire are formulated and the more flagrant their aggressive actions become, the more resistance they encounter.

It is no accident that last Sunday THE WASHINGTON POST whose owners in general share the concepts of U.S. imperial policy, nonetheless considered it necessary to warn: "The illusion which must be abandoned is that the United States remains a dominant superpower capable of foisting its decisions on the rest of the world." But the White House is reluctant to heed such warnings. It still lives by the illusion that with the aid of weapons or even the threat of weapons the United States can dictate its will to one and all. And the further it advances on its dangerous path of adventures, the more frequently its blunders become apparent.

Most flagrant was the failure of Washington's attempts to impose on the Soviet Union its diktat in resolving one of the most acute international issues -- the issue of medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe. Despite the Soviet side's repeated warnings that the USSR will never allow the prevailing approximate equality of forces to be upset, Reagan and his ministers obstinately asserted that they only had to push the first Pershing II and cruise missiles into the FRG, Britain, and Italy for the Soviet side to raise its hands and agree to unilateral disarmament. But what happened?

The firm and resolute statement by Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, about the fact that the United States had broken off the talks by its actions and about the retaliatory steps we were obliged to take exposed the short-sightedness and adventurism of the U.S. leaders. Washington's calculations that the antiwar forces in Europe and the United States would "become disillusioned" and stop their struggle have also failed totally -- on the contrary, they are now stepping up that struggle.

Even the ruling circles of the NATO countries, whose leaders are largedly fettered by class discipline, have begun to waver. The just-published 12 December issue of the U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT stated: "A new antinuclear campaign is growing in Europe, and it is headed not by pacifists but by some of the most influential NATO figures."

Lessons of "Atlantic Week"

To surmount these waverings, Washington rapidly dispatched its chief envoys across the ocean with the mission of twisting its NATO allies' arms. Defense Secretary C. Weinberger, Secretary of State G. Shultz, and P. Nitze, former leader of the U.S. delegation at the Geneva talks torpedoed by the U.S. missiles, were wandering through West Europe this week, using the carrot and stick to reinforce Atlantic discipline.

The latest series of meetings of NATO leaders -- the conference of the bloc's so-called "Eurogroup," sessions of its Military Planning Committee, the conference of defense ministers, and, finally, the NATO Council session at foreign minister level -- took place in Brussels under their command in a grim atmosphere of futility.

The U.S. representatives' attempts to raise their allies' flagging morale by misleading allegations that the USSR "will come to terms with" the fait accompli of the delivery of the Pershing II and cruise missiles to West Europe and will agree to conduct talks under the barrel of the nuclear pistol were unsuccessful. If anyone in West Europe did take the phony bait of U.S. diplomacy and propaganda, then the clear and precise exposition of the Soviet stance given at the Moscow press conference last Monday set everything right.

Of course, the USSR would not consider the prevailing situation irreversible, and if the NATO countries display the readiness to return to the situation existing prior to the deployment of the U.S. missiles in Europe, it is prepared to do the same. But to ascribe to it the readiness to continue the former talks as though nothing had happened is deliberately to mislead and dupe people.

Naturally, when some allies at the NATO Council session tried, as UPI has reported, to suggest that it would be worth "withdrawing the (U.S.) weapons systems already deployed," the U.S. representative categorically objected that "it would be extremely unwise" to do this.

And now Weinberger and his colleagues have redoubled their onslaught on their allies, demanding that they embark immediately, without drawing breath, on a further arms race.

The results of "Atlantic week" in NATO have shown eloquently that the majority of U.S. allies have capitulated yet again to their "big brother." But the rifts in the bloc are constantly growing.

Seeking somehow to paper them over, the participants in the NATO Council session published as their final documents an extensive communique and a declaration containing a multiplicity of insincere words about their alleged unity, desire for peace, and readiness to talk with the East.

As the London newspaper THE TIMES rightly noted, the authors of these propaganda documents have set themselves the aim of "minimizing the anxiety of the participants in the antiwar movement in West Europe over the consequences of the deployment of U.S. missiles there." But this latest serving of misinformation will scarcely reassure the participants in the antiwar movements, because the authors of the NATO session concluding documents did not even consider it necessary to conceal the fact that they are planning a further intensification of the arms race, using the excuse of hackneyed references to the nonexistent "Soviet threat to the West."

State Terrorism

While the orators' speeches were resounding at the diplomatic conference tables in NATO, guns were thundering and bombs were falling and exploding in Lebanon.

Under cover of the flag of the "multinational force" allegedly brought in to "stabilize the situation" in a Lebanon ravaged by the Israeli interventionists (the force includes British, French, and Italian in addition to U.S. troops), the United States as of last September has been making increasingly frequent use of its weapons there, implementing direct interference in the country's internal affairs.

Last Sunday 28 U.S. fighter-bombers took off from the decks of the aircraft carriers, the "Independence" and the "John F. Kennedy," and attacked peaceful Lebanese cities and villages and the positions of the Syrian troops who have been there since September 1976 as part of the pan-Arab forces at the Lebanese Government's request.

This brutal act of aggression was assessed throughout the world as a new manifestation of the policy of state terrorism promoting military piracy to the rank of a norm of U.S. government activity. But the interventionists' provocative actions did not end there -- on Monday evening the guns roared in Beirut.

For 4 long hours the guns of the U.S. 6th Fleet ships and the U.S. ground artillery and tanks fired intensively on the regions of Mount Lebanon and the southern outskirts of Beirut.

Immediately the Israeli armed forces joined in these aggressive actions -- they began shelling and bombing the Palestinian fighters' positions in the Tripoli region in northern Lebanon. A landing assault was even undertaken, but it was repelled. However, in the days that followed, the Israelis continued to shell Tripoli from their ships. In addition their aircraft flew over Syrian troops positions.

Resolutely denouncing the dangerous, adventurist U.S. actions in the Near East, the USSR has stated its solidarity with the peoples of Libya, Syria, and the other Arab countries defending their independence and has issued a warning to the aggressor. The U.S. Government, as the 6 December TASS statement said, must finally realize that its impudent military interference in Lebanon and aggressive actions against Syria are a serious threat to peace in the Near East, and not just there.

So far it does not look as though Washington is prepared to heed the voice of reason. It is venturing to claim that the U.S. Armed Forces' brutal actions in Lebanon are merely... "a defensive measure." Moreover, the U.S. rulers are permitting themselves to accuse Syria -- just think! -- of allowing the Syrians to open fire on U.S. reconnaissance aircraft flying above them; consequently they must be "punished..." That is truly gangster logic!

The British FINANCIAL TIMES newspaper writes that a further expansion of U.S.-Israeli aggression is expected in Beirut. Citing certain diplomatic sources, the newspaper stated that, in their opinion, "The United States and Israel must (!) try to inflict heavy losses on Syria in order to restore their lost authority they plan on earning by attacking the armed forces of a country that has normal diplomatic relations with them, without declaring war, and shedding the blood of civilians!

Time for Resolute Actions

Those are the perturbing events of the past week which have shown the whole world again the threat presented to the peoples by U.S. imperialism, which does not even try to conceal its piratical designs.

The reaction of all peace-loving forces to these actions is the same. The response to it is the new intensification of the struggle of our planet's broadest people's masses against the arms race, primarily the nuclear arms race, and the resolute raising of their vigilance with respect to the warmongers' intrigues. People are beginning to realize that the time has come for resolute action to protect the planet from a deadly nuclear conflagration.

A number of multilateral and bilateral meetings of leaders of the socialist countries were held this week, including the regular session of the Warsaw Pact Defense Ministers' Committee and the conference of secretaries of the socialist countries' fraternal parties' Central Committees.

These meetings took place in the spirit of mutual trust, friendship, and mutual understanding traditional in relations between socialist countries. They showed that the socialist countries have a firm political will and every opportunity for preventing the undermining of their security, upholding the interests of socialism, and seeking justice and lasting peace.

Everywhere on our planet there is a growing understanding that the time has now come for resolute action in the struggle to prevent a new war. This is borne out by the new upsurge of activeness on the part of the millions and millions of fighters for peace last week, which the WPC declared the week of mass action in the struggle against the deployment of the new U.S. missiles in Europe. Soviet people, particularly our young people, are taking the most active part in these mass actions.

Everyone can remember the "vote for peace" referendum held last summer at the Komsomol's initiative, in which over 70 million young Soviet people took part. The young people are now beginning a new mass action -- the dispatch of millions of letters of protest to the leaders of the United States, the FRG, Britain, and Italy, who bear responsibility for the deployment of the new nuclear missiles in West Europe -- which endangers the cause of peace.

These actions not only reflect the undisputed fact that the Soviet people want peace. They show at the same time their determination, by their deeds aimed at strengthening our motherland's might, to avert the threat of war and bring to their senses the maniacs of imperial policy.

NATO DEFENSE MINISTERS PLAN 'WAR' IN COMMUNIQUE

PM131140 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Dec 83 Morning Edition pp 1,4

[Article by IZVESTIYA political observer V. Falin under the rubric "Problems and Opinions": "The War Planning Committee"]

[Text] There was a time when the Americans and the British scrupulously avoided one thing at least -- the number 13. In the United States and Britain people would be reluctant to travel in vehicles bearing the number 13, hotels lacked a 13th floor, and houses bearing this so-called unlucky number went for a rock-bottom price.

Suddenly we have a NATO Military Planning Committee final communique comprising 13 points. Maybe its authors wanted to emphasize the sinister significance of the decisions made by the defense ministers? Or perhaps they intend to sell their wares at give-away prices? I think the first proposition is nearer the truth, especially as the new act of sabotage which is being perpetrated against peace is going to cost the peoples an untold sum.

As usual, the communique is full of phrases like "NATO is a defensive alliance," it is concerned with "preventing a war," and so forth. Each of these velvet phrases is included in order to justify and validate the hard BUT [as published] in capital letters which follows it. In line with the trusty, classic plan: Since the others won't let us be good and nice, let's be mean and bad.

"The curbing of aggression and arms control are integral and complementary parts of the policy of the alliance of Western countries in the security sphere," the communique asserts. "They are crucial to NATO's long-term aims of protecting peace and maintaining, through dialogue and mutually advantageous cooperation, constructive relations between East and West in order to achieve genuine detente." The sly hint at cooperation and the recollection of detente are Washington's magnanimous concession to the European allies which makes, in this case, for a gentler dovetailing of two military programs -- nuclear and nonnuclear.

The implementation of these programs, geared to "substantially increasing the might of the forces of deterrence and defense," will require a great effort and "the best possible utilization of meager resources." However, the ministers stress, you cannot do without this if you want to "deter aggression" and withstand the "threat posed by the Warsaw Pact." So it's a question of having to guess the nature of the unspecified "aggression." The socialist countries' "threat" is kept vague so that they don't have to prove the others' culpability and their own correctness. This being the case, the NATO defense ministers have to chosen to play with impressions rather than facts.

They are "alarmed by the rate of the modernization of Warsaw Pact forces," they "regret" that the USSR "unilaterally stopped the latest round of the Geneva talks on intermediate-range forces," and they are worried about the "serious disruption of the balance" which has allegedly occurred "as a result of the Soviet Union's continuous deployment of SS-20 missiles." Those who think this are well advised to cross themselves. But what if it is absolutely essential for things to appear the way they want them to appear? Then the sign of the cross is powerless. You have to proclaim a crusade. Even if the socialist countries were as meek and as quiet as mice, they would not please the people who are currently calling the tune in NATO. The latter are infuriated not by our policy but by the very existence of socialism as a philosophy and system. As far as they are concerned, it is socialism itself which is the bringer of evil and threats. All the rest is incidental.

"Let's assume the NATO leaders really are anxious and worried. Let's assume they unconsciously sense the "danger of aggression." If so, what is preventing them from seriously considering the socialist countries' proposals on the liquidation of all medium-range and tactical nuclear armaments in Europe, reducing the level of conventional armaments, and adopting a reciprocal pledge not to be the first to use any kind of military force -- using nuclear or any other type of weapons? Why did the ministers again ignore these possibilities completely? Because the bloc's Military Planning Committee acts fully in accordance with its name -- it is planning war, not peace [Russian adjective "voyennyy" means "military" or "war]

Let us take equilibrium as the NATO officials see it. The ministers' communique contained a "reminder" of the bloc's decisions to withdraw 1,400 nuclear warheads from Europe. According to their publicity, nuclear warhead stockpiles will be at their lowest level in the last 20 years. But the ministers forgot to mention that two decades ago the United States had 6 or 7 times as many nuclear weapons as the Soviet Union, and that was also deemed "equilibrium." They also omitted the "detail" that, even if the 1,400 charges are removed on schedule, NATO will still have more -- indeed, many more -- nuclear weapons in Europe than the Warsaw Pact.

By expressing rapture over the latest American stratagem of "build-down" (modernization of nuclear arsenals simultaneously with their reduction), Washington's colleagues are only sidestepping truths which are unnecessary and harmful to NATO's plans. Otherwise they would have to admit that one submarine carrying Trident II's is superior in combat potential to 20 submarines with Polaris-A3 missiles, and that the potential of a single MX missile is equal to 15-20 Minuteman-3 missiles. So NATO's finger-counting is deception through and through.

In other words, the defense ministers were plying their usual trade in Brussels. Conventional praise of R. Reagan's administration for its efforts, which led the talks on limiting nuclear arms in Europe into an impasse and blocked progress at the strategic weapons talks. Totally meaningless promises to promote the success of the conference on measures to strengthen confidence and security and on disarmament in Europe. Routine sighs over the Vienna talks, which, because of the West's endless ruses, have already marked their 10th anniversary of futility. This accounted for 10 of the 13 times.

But no treasure is buried in the remaining three, only a delayed-action mine. NATO is starting a race for qualitatively new nonnuclear arms. For the sake of "protecting the peoples' security," in order to "lessen" the probability of nuclear conflict and raise the "nuclear threshold." They pretend that it is only now that they have adopted the program for NATO's forces in 1983-1988, practically on the basis of an "analysis of NATO's defense capability in 1983."

Once having started, they cannot help going on lying. The decision in principle was formed 2 years ago deep inside the bloc. Still in a secret version at that time, it was justified not by the "modernization of the Warsaw Pact forces over the entire spectrum," but mainly by the "expediency" of involving the USSR in an arms race in spheres where expenditure is particularly great and burdensome for the economy. To push the socialist countries into extra expenditure and, at the same time, accuse the Soviet Union of "superarmament" and prattle on about the "danger of war" is unconvincing. Let people think that NATO is "reacting" to a challenge, since the public has no objective sources of information. And that's what they arranged.

The NATO ministers refrained from announcing what systems and combinations of armaments they intend to present to the delighted peoples. They merely hinted that they would be expensive and highly complex technically. Some Western specialists are calling them "thinking" systems. Who knows, maybe in NATO development is geared toward weapons which will be smarter than their creators and, in particular, the inspirers of the insane game which they cynically call efforts to "protect peace and freedom."

NATO'S 'ATLANTIC SOLIDARITY' RIDICULED

LD092353 Moscow TASS in English 1655 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow December 9 TASS -- The newspaper PRAVDA in its December 10 issue carries the article "Behind the Screen of Atlantic Solidarity'" by S. Yeliseyev. Follows its full text:

"The praising of the so-called 'Atlantic solidarity', the calls to strengthen it are nothing new in the political language of NATO. They in Washington are particularly zealous in that high-placed, and frequently top representatives of the American Administration have lately been really obsessed by glorification of 'unity' in NATO. And 'Atlantic solidarity, unity, determination and strength of NATO' are being obtrusively presented as nearly the panacea for all evils that the Soviet Union is allegedly ready to pounce on its West European neighbours, and not only them.

"In capitals of some other NATO member countries, by whose efforts green light was given to deployment of American Pershings and cruise missiles in Western Europe, they are not against echoing Washington in that. Much space is taken up by such a discourse in speeches of U.S. closest partners at the current NATO Council's session in Brussels.

"What meaning is put into the 'Atlantic solidarity' notion? "It is known that since the time of NATO's formation that meant only one thing -- to tie U.S. NATO allies still stronger to the chariot of the American policy, to make them carry the heavy burden of military expenditures for the sake of Washington's ambitious designs aimed at ensuring U.S. and NATO's military superiority over the USSR and the Warsaw Treaty Organisation, to be a cover-up and a help in furthering imperial claims of the U.S. ruling circles.

"The present-day American Administration approaches the matter exactly from such positions. 'Solidarity' in NATO is conceived by it as an instrument which makes it possible to preserve 'the freedom of hands' to itself and simultaneously to ignore the national interests of its allies.

"Such was and is the real essence of 'Atlantic solidarity'. It has already been repeatedly disclosed and denounced by the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community. This is also realised by sober-minded Western leaders who are not indifferent to the future of their countries and peoples.

"One could say much of how actually things stand with 'unity' in NATO. The truth is that 'Atlantic solidarity' has never been the model of unanimity, despite the simulated optimism of champions of the so-called 'unity' and attempts to polish it in a proper way. It has always been characterised by serious flaws, deep cracks with a tendency to siden. It cannot be otherwise, considering the essence of that 'solidarity'.

"Why are they so sealously taking care of NATO's unity? The answer here is simple in general. Under the cover of the smokescreen of protestations on 'Atlantic solidarity' they seek to legalise the appearance of new American missiles on European soil, contrary to the energetic protest of the majority of the population of Western Europe. With the help of the same screen Washington is trying to whitewash its one-sided stand on the question of medium-range nuclear systems in Europe, the stand which is aimed at unilaterla disarmament of the USSR and which led to frustration of the relevant Geneva negotiations."

"Building up in every way the 'NATO unity', they would also like to see it that West European states and their peoples should resign themselves to the exceedingly dangerous situation which is shaping in the continent as a result of deployment of new American nuclear missiles.

"Those who deliberately play up to the militaristic course of Washington and who found themselves drawn into the channel of the American policy, now should think seriously more than ever before what consequences can be brought by the foreign policy course, conducted by the present-day U.S. Administration, and what role is assigned by it to 'Atlantic solidarity'.

"One cannot but think of that since this course conducted by Washington has already led to a serious cooling of the political climate in the world, it exerts a destructive effect on the whole system of international relations and creates a grave threat to the mainstrays of universal peace".

JOURNALIST GROUP HITS U.S.-ISRAELI 'CONSPIRACY'

LD131625 Moscow TASS in English 1451 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] New Delhi December 13 TASS -- By TASS correspondent Aleksandr Bokhonko:

The first conference of journalists from non-aligned nations devoted to mass media issues has closed here. Delegations from more than forty countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America, as well as representatives of several international organisations and national liberation movements discussed a broad range of issues connected with the elimination of the nomination of imperialist powers in the sphere of mass media, development of cooperation between non-aligned countries in this sphere and establishment of a new information order.

The delegates unanimously approved reports by the commissions and the final declaration setting forth the chief tasks facing the non-aligned nations in the field of information and defining ways towards establishing a fair international information order.

The conferees, says a commission's report, hold it as a civic and a professional duty of journalists developing countries to provide active coverage of the problems of the struggle for peace and disarmament, against apartheid and racism. One of the chief tasks facing the mass media bodies in non-aligned countries is getting rid of domination of Western information monopolies and resistance to their systematic distortion of the events connected with the aggressive actions of imperialism and Zionism.

The delegates strongly denounced the position of the United States which openly threatens UNESCO with stopping payments to its treasury unless the international organisation gives up its support for the struggle of non-aligned countries for a new information order. Decolonisation of the mass media, the declaration stresses, is acquiring special signficance in the context of the peoples' overall struggle for the liberation from social, economic and political yoke.

The conferees adopted also a special resolution expressing support for the just struggle of the Arab people of Palestine under PLO leadership and stressing the need to expose the aggressive essence of the U.S.-Israeli conspiracy in the Middle East.

MAURITIUS UN ENVOY PROTESTS UK 'CLAIMS' TO CHAGOS

LD131205 Moscow TASS in English 1111 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] New York December 13 TASS -- TASS correspondent Valentin Vasilets reports:

Mauritius has categorically turned down Britain's groundless claims of sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago in the Indian Ocean.

The permanent representative of Mauritius at the United Nations R. Sirikissun has sent a letter to the U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, stressing that London has taken the course of annexing Chagos since the time Mauritius gained independence. To further that aim the British authorities evicted from the archipelago about 600 families. In the letter it is emphasized that London's refusal to release Chagos is contrary to the declaration on granting independence to colonial countries and peoples, which was adopted by the U.N. General Assembly on December 14, 1960.

As is known, in the declaration it is noted that power should be transferred to peoples, living on trust and non-self-governed territories without any conditions and reservations and that any attempt to partially or fully destroy national unity or territorial integrity of the country is incompatible with the aims and principles of the U.N. Charter.

The peoples of the Indian Ocean basin feel profound concern over the future of Chagos above all since Britain gave to the Pentagon full control over the Diego Garcia island, which is part of the archipelago, and the Pentagon is turning it into a major base -- an arsenal of nuclear weapons, a strongpoint for the interventionist "Rapid Deployment Force".

NATO GROUP EXTENDS LEBANON FORCES' STAY

LD131927 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 13 Dec 83

[From The Vremya newscast]

[Text] During the recent NATO Council session held in Brussels, an official meeting between foreign ministers of the United States, Britain, France and Italy was held on the issue of extending the presence in Lebanon of the occupation troops of these countries -- troops which they call multinational forces.

On the insistence of the United States, the duration of the stay of these forces was extended indefinitely.

REAGAN BASES FOREIGN POLICY ON'MILITARY MIGHT'

LD132024 Moscow TASS in English 2004 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] New York December 13 TASS -- The incumbent U.S. Administration continues to put a stake in foreign policy affairs mainly on military might and gross interference in the affairs of other countries. This is confirmed by statements of President Reagan in an interview with the newspaper NEW YORK DAILY NEWS.

The head of the White House stated point-blank that the U.S. was not going to withdraw its troops from Lebanon. According to Reagan, "The United States will not be drawn into a war" in Lebanon. However, facts show that U.S. Marines expand with every day their participation in combat operations there, using new barbarous types of shells agianst peaceful population. The President admitted that he had authorized the barbarous air raid of the U.S. warplanes on the positions of the Syrian contingent of the inter-Arab peacekeeping force in Lebanon.

Reagan maliciously attacked Iran with unfounded accusations to the effect that it had allegedly organized the recent explosion outside the U.S. Embassy in Kuwait. The head of the White House threatened Iran with punitive actions if the latter did not "curb and curtail" its activities.

Reagan's latest statements show once again that Washington elevated terrorism in international affairs to the level of its state policy.

REAGAN'S 'HAWKISH POLICY' PROTESTED IN U.S.

LD140036 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1710 GMT 13 Dec 83

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Vyacheslav Iavrentyev]

[Text] In the United States American peace fighters staged an impressive demonstration in front of a hotel in Boston where SMART operators and missile equipment experts were holding their conference.

In New York, where President Reagan had arrived to deliver a speech to a group awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, the public met him with the following slogans: "Reaganism is racialism," "U.S. troops out of Lebanon and Central America," and "American troops have no place in Europe."

This antiwar and -- it can be said -- anti-Reagan demonstration, took place outside despite the pouring rain near the hotel building. Inside, meanwhile, behind closed doors, the President himself made his latest bellicose statements. Our times of weakness have passed, he stated. We have kept our saber in its sheath, thinking that others would follow our example, but now we must draw it.

The U.S. President, as always, to put it mildly, was being cunning. In this century alone the United States has used its Armed Forces over 50 times in various points of the globe. But there is also a grain of truth in his words. While previously, under other presidents, the sabre was taken out of the sheath from time to time, now it is never put away: Grenada, Nicaragua, the Near East, and Western Europe where the situation has sharply heated up because of the American nuclear missiles.

We are deeply alarmed at Reagan's hawkish foreign policy, a TASS correspondent in New York was told by Tom Soto, the leader of the public organization Mobilization of the People against War. Such a course can in the end lead to a global confrontation.

It cannot be said that Reagan is completely ignoring public opinion. At the same meeting in New York he announced the withdrawal of American troops from Grenada. Out of the 5,000 soldiers on the island no more than 300 will remain, he explained, simply to carry out some building work. What is this, for Americans, 300 men, taking into account the country's immense territory and its multimillion population? This is a trifle, merely a handful. Near that same New York hotel, more policemen had been brought in to protect the President against the demonstrators. But for such a tiny country like Grenada, where only 5,000 people live in the capital, St George's, 300 men equipped with modern weapons is a continuation of the occupation.

Two British papers, the OBSERVER and the SUNDAY TIMES, have just published articles by their correspondents in Grenada. They say that all power on the island is in the hands of the Americans. Governor-General Scoon is their puppet. Every morning he reports to the commander of the occupation troops and receives instructions from him: what is to be done and how. Two candidates for the post of head of provisional government Washington intends to set up on the island have already refused the offer, seeing that such government would be entirely devoid of power.

The Grenadians complained to the British journalists that their country is increasingly turning into a colony of the United States.

REAGAN MIDEAST POLICY FACING GROWING CRITICISM

LD140046 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1710 GMT 13 Dec 83

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Vyacheslav Lavrentyev]

[Text] In his New York speech Reagan touched on the Near East situation. He called for a further build-up of military might in the region, having stated that the security region of the United States stretches from Grenada to Lebanon. But such a power policy approach to tackling complex, multiple problems is meeting with ever more criticism. Washington hears it not only from progressive Arab countries but also from its NATO allies. Over to Vladimir Tsvetov, political observer of Central Television and All-Union Radio:

The new compact between Washington and Tel Aviv is aimed against the Arab peoples' interests. Its goal is further destabilization of the situation in the region. These words rang out at the United Nations General Assembly. They were pronounced by the representative of the Yemeni Arab Repubic who took part in the discussion on the Near East situation.

In the British Parliament they are afraid of the obvious slide toward a war between the United States and Syria in the Lebanon. As the LONDON TIMES wrote, MP's are voicing alarm over the fact that the UK Government, although a very close ally of the United States, cannot either control or influence American policy in the Near East.

Even in the entourage of President Reagan himself, among those still capable of soberly assessing the consequences of political steps, one can hear notes of dissatisfaction in their statements at the United States being drawn into military operations in Lebanon.

This is very much like Vietnam, it is being said in the American President's entourage. But the President does not even think of halting the slide toward another Vietnam.

The American-Israeli agreement on strategic cooperation turns the United States into an accomplice of Israeli aggressive actions in Lebanon. Israeli naval forces have blocked PLO detachments in Tripoli. Judging from the shelling of the Palestinians' positions by Israeli ships, Tel Aviv is getting ready to implement its threat to wipe out the supporters of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. If Israel had not established strategic cooperation relations with the United States the Israeli militarists would not have dared to throw down a challenge to the United Nations, France and a number of Arab states asked by the Palestinians to guarantee their safe evacuation from Tripoli. American-Israeli relations of strategic cooperation, or more precisely of military alliance, can serve as a reason for the United States not to intervene if Israel indeed undertakes military actions against Palestinians leaving Tripoli. Such a development threatens to lead to an exceptionally dangerous widening of the conflict in the Lebanon.

During the 3 years of Reagan's presidency, experience suggests that when the President starts to zealously affirm his striving for peace and to manifest irrepressible concern for safeguarding the security of Americans, entire groups or individuals, one should be prepared for the next American aggressive action. President Reagan now declares his striving for peace in Lebanon every time he is in the front of a television camera, a radio microphone, or a man with a reporter's notebook.

As far as his concern for ensuring security is concerned, the President has now extended this from the Marines in Lebanon to himself; added to the antitank barriers at the gates of the presidential residence in Washington are antiaircraft missiles. The aim of this farce is to slander the partriotic forces of Lebanon. The American administration is trying to present them as terrorists.

Thus, not only the policy of the United States in the Near East but also the propagandist preparation for new aggressive actions have become the cause of accusations and criticism addressed to Washington from both abroad and within the United States.

U.S.-USSR SCIENTISTS HOLD FORUM ON NUCLEAR WAR

PM131611 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent L. Koryavin dispatch: "USSR-USA: Scientists' Forum"]

[Text] Washington -- This was a major and important conversation between scientists and politicians concerning the cardinal problem of the day -- the problem of averting the threat of nuclear war. It was held in one of the U.S. Congress buildings known in Washington as "Russell House."

Eminent Soviet and U.S. scientists took part in the representative symposium, as did the meeting organizers -- Senators Kennedy, Hatfield, and Pell. This forum is not the first dialogue between representatives of Soviet and U.S. scientific circles. But holding it now, with an unrestrained arms race continuing and U.S. militarist circles nurturing insane plans for unleashing nuclear war, is more important and topical than ever.

In rejecting the far-fetched "thesis" about the possibility of "victory" and "survival" in a nuclear conflict, the eminent U.S. politician Senator Edward Kennedy declared at the symposium opening that "We are gathered here to debate the most important problem of our time and of all time, the problem of problems. There is no need to point out the indisputable truth that World War II would be the last world war -- a war unleashed against peace and our planet itself. This conflict would raise on question. Not of how many people would survive a nuclear strike, but of how long it would take them to die on a dying planet."

The idea that nuclear war would have catastrophic ecological consequences and would create a deadly threat to mankind itself and its civilization permeated the speeches of all the two countries' scientists without exception. The main result of this important forum's work is the identity of opinions expressed by the USSR and U.S. representatives on questions relating to the prevention of nuclear madness. With good arguments, in-depth analysis, and breadth of academic knowledge, they showed that a nuclear catastrophe and its consequences could be irreparable for the whole planet.

One more important conclusion that can be drawn from the work of the scientists' forum in Washington is that it exposed and demonstrated the utter groundlessness of those "concepts" and "conclusions" that boil down to saying that a policy of strength must be "fundamental" and must serve as an argument in favor of building up armaments arsenals in approaching the resolution of international problems. "The nuclear first strike theory is a suicidal theory," "as armaments increase the peoples' security decreases," "star wars fantasies cannot save planet earth from the real threat," "a limited war cannot fail to spark off a global war", "nuclear weapons cannot be a means of achieving political ends" -- that is a brief shorthand record of by no means all the conclusions reached at the symposium.

The meeting of Soviet and U.S. scientists showed how productive a dialogue built on the principles of mutual understanding can be, and it was just this that characterized the recently ended Washington forum.

This very thought was expressed at the end of the symposium by Senator Kennedy in conversation with Soviet journalists: "Despite all the differences of opinion that exist between the United States and the Soviet Union, our countries must seek ways and points of contact that will promote the attainment of the vital goal, the goal of our generation -- averting the threat of nuclear war."

And the scientists' symposium held on Capital Hill truly demonstrated that reason is capable of triumphing over the lunacy of those who wish to drag it into the abyss of nuclear chaos.

U.S. PLANS TO DEVELOP 'SPACE WEAPONS' REPORTED

LD131536 Moscow TASS in English 1657 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] San Francisco December 13 TASS -- The United States intends to conduct in the current month tests of anti-satellite weapons, reports the newspaper LOS ANGELES TIMES. A double-stage homing missile, intended to hit space objects, will be launched from an F-15 fighter-plane at an altitude of 80,000 feet, the report said.

LOS ANGELES TIMES stresses that a new practical step will thereby be made towards militarization of outer space which is actively sought by the Washington administration.

The tests are to be held at a time when President Reagan prepares to approve of the programme of "Star Wars" -- an extensive plan of exploration and development of systems of space weapons, the newspaper writes.

Referring to White House sources, the newspaper points out that the decision in principle to that effect has already been taken by President Reagan and now the pace of creating new weapons is to be deterimined, and the necessary expenditures and officials in the Pentagon to be responsible for realization of the project are to be specified. It is most probable that from 5,000 to 7,000 million dollars are to be allocated for the development of space weapons in the next five years. A total of more than 2,000 million dollars are earmarked in the budget of 1985 for the purpose.

U.S. ANTIWAR, NUCLEAR FREEZE CAMPAIGN NOTED

LD131639 Moscow TASS in English 1606 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] New York December 13 TASS -- Correspondent Yevgeniy Mankes reports:

The newly set up national anti-war organisation "Freeze Voter '84" has launched a campaign to draw the U.S. peace workers in the electrical campaign which is unfolding in already a dozen big cities. The active members of the "Freeze Voter '84" are engaged in collecting signatures under an appeal for nuclear freeze and also in the registration of voters who intend to cast their ballots next year only for those candidates to the federal and local bodies of power who come out for averting the nuclear war and freezing nuclear arsenals.

We proceed from the premise that if the Americans fail to convince their country's leaders in the necessity to alter the policy pursued by them, we should press for exchange of the leadership, W. Curry, executive director of the "Freeze Voter '84" said in an interview with the TASS correspondent. In a span of several months our actions will sweep the whole country, he added.

Simultaneously another anti-war organisation -- the National Campaign for a Freeze on Nuclear Arsenals -- will press the administration and the Congress to stop funding the testing and deployment of nuclear armaments, Randall Kehler, coordinator of the campaign said in an interview with the newspaper CHICAGO TRIBUNE. This is a direct way to halt the insane race of armaments. If we fail to achieve this, he said, we would make the state and political figures feel our strength at the upcoming elections.

The U.S. prominent scientist Richard Barnet pointed to the danger of Ronald Reagan's and his administration's militaristic policy. Addressing a conference in Middletown (Connecticut), he said that if such policy is carried on, it will not take much time for a chancy spark to invite the chain of events to be crowned with a nuclear catastrophe.

According to A. Sanches, member of the leadership of the national movement for a ban on nuclear tests, the marked activization of the American peace workers is evidence of the growing opposition of the U.S. population to the militarism's insanity endemic to the administration's policy.

However, the head of the White House and his team continue ignoring the reasonable calls.

The upsurge of the anti-war movement is received by the administration with hostility, to peaceful demonstrations it replies with cruel repressions. Another 50 peace workers were jailed, this time in Boston, Massachusetts. They took part in a protest demonstration against the growth of the military spending, which was staged in connection with the conference on new nuclear systems held there on the initiative of a number of military-industrial corporations.

REAGAN 'RESPONSIBILITY' FOR U.S. HUNGER STRESSED

LD132324 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Nikolay Agayants commentary: "How Mr Meese Put His Foot In It"]

[Text] In the White House, where scandals and those that make them have become an everyday event, there is again a smell of burning, so to speak. No, this time it is not President Carter's stolen papers, nor the financial dealings that the present CIA chief William Casey successfully subsisted on. Nor does it have anything to do with the Donovan case, that is, the affair involving the U.S. labor secretary's collaboration with the Mafia. The hero and culprit of this latest scrape is one of Ronald Reagan's closest advisers, Edwin Meese III or -- to be more exact -- his garrulousness. One of the richest men in the present administration of millionaires, he resolved to pass judgment on certain lofty social matters -- and put his foot in it. In an interview for an ASSOCIATED PRESS agency correspondent, Meese declared without batting an eyelid that he had heard a funny story about the hungry children of the United States but had no reliable confirmation of it. And, indeed, what hunger can there be in the blessed United States, that society of equal opportunity? Whoever stands in soup kitchen lines is simply out for a free meal, observed Mr Edward Meese III.

These insulting remarks from a high-ranking administration official have literally caused a storm of indignation in the country. In the first reactions, the agencies UPI and AP quoted statements by leaders of philanthropic organizations in Albany and Salt Lake City: Get out of the White House and onto the street, Mr Meese, and look at the faces of the unfortunates who have no jobs or means of existence. They are standing in line for a bowl of free food not because they want to save money but out of utter destitution and despair.

Thousands of residents in the U.S. capital must look forward to this winter without a roof over their heads and go hungry. The hostels here are full and the soup kitchens cannot serve all those who need free food, said (Seagan), coordinator of the Coalition for Help to the Homeless. If Ronald Reagan's adviser has neither the time nor the desire to visit the hostels and soup kitchens of the Salvation Army, he could at least occasionally take a look at newspapers printed in the United States. Hunger has become a national problem in the United States, wrote the influential NEW YORK TIMES. The most widespread and dangerous problem is the rapid increase in the number of Americans suffering from hunger, observed the U.S. mayors' conference. According to public organizations the country now has at least 44 million needy people, of which 12 million suffer from constant hunger. And this happens in a country that throws billions of dollars into military spending. And this happens in a country that vaunts its wealth and prosperity. Responsibility for the disastrous condition of millions of U.S. citizens is born by Reagan and his ilk -- including, of course, the garrulous Mr Meese. That is, by all those who, while endorsing the Pentagon's astronomical budget, are cutting back on the already miserable federal aid to the hungry.

## CHINESE WRITERS ATTEND TRANSLATORS CONFERENCE

### Meet With Soviet Orientalists

PM131154 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Dec 83 p 6

[TASS report: "Meeting With Chinese Writers"]

[Text] A meeting took place 8 December between Soviet orientalists and Chinese writers Ge Baoquan and Gao Mang, who took part in the work of the international conference of translators of Soviet literature.

Taking part in the meeting were N.T. Fedorenko, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences; Doctors of Science M.S. Kapitsa, L.Z. Eydlin, V.F. Sorokin, and L.Ye. Cherkasskiy; and other scientists. PRC Ambassador to the USSR Yang Shouzheng was present at the meeting.

### Address Moscow Meeting

PM131212 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Dec 83 p 11

[Unattributed report: "Fellow Thinkers in the Struggle for Peace: Poet and Translator"]

[Excerpts] The participants in the sixth international meeting of translators of Soviet literature in Moscow ended their stay in our country on a high and pure note of the truly harmonious fusion of poetic skill and the translator's art. An international poetry evening took place at the A.A. Fadeyev Central House of Literature, chaired by Robert Rozhdestvenskiy, secretary of the USSR Writers Union Board.

The meeting was addressed by (Ganga Prasad Vimal) (India), Karl (Dedetsisu) (FRG), Yelena Nikolayevskaya, Igor (Sikeritskiy) (Poland), (Gili Abdurrakhman) (Sudan), Vladimir Kostrov, (Bang Vyet) (SRV), Margarita Aliger, (Olivera Shiyachki) (SFRY), (Miklosh Veresh) (Hungary), Yevgeniy Yevtuschenko, (Manuel de Siabra) (Portugal), Miriam Morton (USA), Yuriy Voronov, Bozhidar Bozhilov (Bulgaria), Bulat Okudzhava, Gao Mang (PRC).

The poets and translators, fellow thinkers nobly serving the cause of international peace, understanding, and trust and of enriching world literature and culture, convincingly demonstrated that real talent, with its respect for man and humanism and its devotion to the ideals of freedom and justice, is capable of touching the souls of people wherever they may live.

Assessing the results of the sixth international meeting of translators of Soviet literature, Sergey Baruzdin, secretary of the USSR Writers Union Board, said:

"I can compare this meeting with five preceding ones. It seems to me that the difference in the present forum should be examined from two viewpoints. First, its participants are perfectly aware of the specific features of the moment in time when we have gathered. Their speeches have expressed a civic alarm for the fate of peace and a clear understanding of the lofty role to be played by translators and in general by literature translated into other languages as bridges of friendship and peace, which are so important in these disturbed times.

"Second, it is very important that many purely creative problems -- they of course have also been the subject of attention in the past, but often somewhat superficially -- have been discussed with profound awareness of the fundamentally important fact that the translation of a given work from another language is not just familiarization with another country or another people, but also an enrichment of the literature represented by the translator.

Unity of lofty goals. Meaningful broad discussion. Joy of free intermingling. These are the fundamental factors guaranteeing the successful and fruitful work of the Moscow forum that were singled out by the masters of artistic translation in talks with LITERATURNAYA GAZETA correspondents.

Ge Boaquan (China)

I am very pleased to have had the great good fortune to attend the international meeting of translators of Soviet literature in Moscow. It is hard to overestimate the opportunity of meeting personally famous Soviet writers, playwrights, and poets and many colleagues from foreign countries. I believe that the exchange of opinions that took place will be extremely useful for our common cause -- the artistic translation of Soviet books.

I am especially happy and proud to have been presented with an honorary diploma by the USSR Writers Union. I look on it as a high prize not only for myself but for all Chinese translators of Russian and Soviet literature.

U.S. FLIGHTS OVER DPRK AIRSPACE 'PROVOCATIVE'

LD131516 Moscow TASS in English 1340 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] Pyongyang December 13 TASS -- American military continue committing provocations against the KPDR.

It is reported by the Korean Central News Agency [KCNA] that American CR-71 reconnaissance planes intruded twice on December 12 into the air space of the republic. They flew over the territorial waters of the KPDR and reconnoitered northern areas. The agency stresses that the provocative flights are insolent encroachment upon the sovereignty of the republic. The KPDR representative at the military commission on armistice in Korea firmly protested against the flights and demanded that urgent measures be taken to prevent such criminal actions from occurring in the future.

JAPANESE GROUPS QUESTION NUCLEAR SHIPS' VISITS

LD131438 Moscow TASS in English 1215 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] Tokyo December 13 TASS -- By TASS correspondent Valeriy Agarkov:

Debate in Tokyo on visits to Japanese ports by the British aircraft carrier "Invincible" with nuclear weapons on board shows that the Liberal Democratic government is openly taking the dangerous course of abandoning Japan's policy based on "three non-nuclear principles": not to bring in, not to possess and not to manufacture nuclear armaments.

American aircraft, submarines and other warships carrying nuclear weapons have for years been actively using Japanese ports as their permanent bases. The strike aircraft carrier "Midway," for example, is registered in Yokosuka. The atomic aircraft carrier "Enterprise" often calls at Japanese ports. The newest atomic aircraft carrier "Carl Vinson" visited last autumn the port of Sasebo where one of the Pentagon's largest naval facilities in Asia is situated.

The Japanese Government is now obviously going to make an "exception" for other members of the aggressive NATO bloc as well.

Representatives of the communist and socialist parties of Japan, the Central Executive Committee of the organisation "for cancelling the Japanese-American security treaty" and several other mass democratic organisations have demanded a ban on the call of the aircraft carrier "Invincible" to Japanese ports. The "Invincible" is carrying about a hundred nuclear warheads, William Akin, director of the American Institute on Problems of Disarmament and Nuclear Armaments, told the newspaper AKAHATA.

The General Council of Trade Unions of Japan (SOHYO) backed the demands for banning the visit by the English aircraft carrier. The leadership of the country's largest trade union centre, with its membership standing at 4.5 million, expressed determination to start a mass campaign of protest against the call at Japanese ports by the dangerous "visitor."

## BANGLADESH'S ERSHAD PROCLAIMS HIMSELF PRESIDENT

PM131244 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 4

[IZVESTIYA press service report: "Proclaimed Himself President"]

[Text] Lieutenant General Hussain Mohammad Ershad, the military leader of Bangladesh, who came to power as a result of the 1982 military coup, has proclaimed himself the country's preseident, REUTER reports.

Lt Gen Ershad proclaimed himself president immediately after the outbreak of bloody violence in the cities of Dhaka and Chittagong where protest demostrations were organized by the two leading opposition coalitions, uniting 15 parties. The demonstrators demanded the repeal of martial law, which has been in effect for 20 months now, and the restoration of democracy in the country. This is not the first time opposition forces have made such demands. And the demonstrations have always been fiercely suppressed by the police. That is what happened the last time too, The breaking up of the demonstration became a ferocious massacre: 6 people were killed and 500 wounded. Many opposition politicians were arrested and imprisoned. All political activity has now been banned.

The Bangladesh military leader, who has now become president without the elections Ershad used to like to talk about, has concentrated all power in his hands. Before proclaiming himself president he already held four leading posts: chief martial law administrator, chief of staff of the army, defense minister, and commander in chief of the armed forces.

In early November this year Ershad announced that he would seek election as president if "the people want it." And now, despite proclaiming himself president, Ershad continues to assert that presidential elections will take place in Bangladesh in May 1984.

## U.S. FORUM ON AFGHANISTAN 'HOSTILE' TO DRA

LD131145 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2358 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Washington, 13 Dec (TASS) -- The Reagan administration is seeking ways of considerably expanding aid to the bands of basmachis operating against the Afghan people. These are the aims served by a 2-day provocative meeting which has opened here under the pretentious title "Forum on Afghanistan." The White House is doing nothing to conceal the fact that it specific recommendations on stepping up the hostile anti-Afghan campaign aspects from the "forum" participants. It is significant that about half the "delegates" are ringleaders of the basmatchi rabble, either those taking refuge in the United States or those specially brought in from camps on Pakistani territory.

The tone of the provocative "debate" was set by U.S. Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Lawrence Eagleburger. He did not conceal the administation's "admiration" for the "bravery and endurance" of the bandits who, as is known, murder peaceful civilians including women and children, burn homes and crops and maraud and pillage villages.

DRA SECURITY FORCES ROUT 'LARGE GANG' OF REBELS

PM131647 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Dec 83 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Gang's Defeat"]

[Text] Kabul, 12 Dec -- The DRA security forces have routed a large gang of counter-revolutionaries who were terrorizing the peaceful population of Badakhshan Province. As the BAKHTAR agency reports, a dozen bandits who had infiltrated into Afghanistan from abroad were taken prisoner and a considerable quantity of weapons, including mortars, missile launchers, and large-caliber machineguns, was seized. Another group of bandits has been arrested by the security forces in Balkh Province. This group was engaging in robbery on the province's main transport routes.

DRA LEADERS RECEIVE SOVIET WRITERS' DELEGATION

PM131251 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Dec 83 p 6

[Unattributed report: "Festival of Soviet Literature in Afghanistan"]

[Text] A festival of Soviet literature was held 1-10 December 1983 in the DRA in connection with the fifth anniversary of the signing of the USSR-DRA Treaty of Friendship, Good-Neighborliness, and Cooperation. Taking part in the festival was a delegation from the USSR Writers Union consisting of Yu. Verchenko, secretary of the USSR Writers Union Board (leader); A. Grechanikov, D. Pavlychko, O. Suleymenov, K. Selikhov, L. Shchipakhina, and V. Feonova.

The delegation's members toured enterprises, construction sites, and higher education establishments, met with their Afghan colleagues, workers, students, and People's Army fighters, and spoke at Afghan-Soviet friendship meetings in Jalalabad and Sheberghan.

The delegation conducted talks at the DRA Writers Union with Dastigir Panjsheri, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Writers Union.

A meeting took place with Nur Ahmad Nur, member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA Central Committee.

The delegation was received by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council.

ARKHIPOV ON DEVELOPING SOVIET-INDIAN FRIENDSHIP

PM131644 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Dec 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Good Prospects"]

[Text] Delhi, 10 Dec -- The eighth session of the Soviet-Indian Intergovernmental Commission for Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation ended here yesterday. The two countries' delegations were headed by the commission's co-chairmen -- I.V. Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and P.V. Narasimha Rao, the Indian minister of external relations.

The session discussed questions of the state of and prospects for Soviet-Indian links in ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy, machine building, the power industry, the coal industry, the oil industry, and other sectors.

The sides noted in particular the successful development of cooperation in the construction of the first stage of the metallurgical combine at Visakhapatnam, the expansion of production capacities at the metallurgical combines at Bhilai and Bokaro, the modernization of a plant at (Burnpur), the construction of India's biggest power industry complex consisting of the Vindhyachal thermal power station and the (Nigakhi) opencut coal mine, and other projects. Agreement was reached on deepening production sharing between Soviet enterprises and the machine building plants built with Soviet assistance at Ranchi, Durgapur and Hardwar. Questions of possible cooperation in the construction in India of a number of new projects in the sphere of the power industry and ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy, and directions and forms of the development of links in the oil and coal industry were also examined.

The sides expressed satisfaction with the level attained in Soviet-Indian trade and signed a protocol on trade turnover between the two countries in 1984 which provides for an increased volume of mutual deliveries and a wider range of goods.

The commission approved the results of joint work by Soviet and Indian scientific organizations in implementing the program for Soviet-Indian cooperation in the sphere of science and technology in 1980-1983. A new program for cooperation in this sphere in 1984-1987 was signed. The session also discussed progress in perparing the basic guidelines for economic, trade, and scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and India for the period after 1900.

Speaking at the ceremony for the signing of the sessions protocol, P.V. Narasimha Rao, Indian minister of external relations, noted that the commission's work proceeded in the spirit of friendship and mutual understanding characteristic of relations between the two countries. The minister stressed that the economic and scientific and technical links between India and the Soviet Union have bright prospects. "Our countries are separated by thousands of miles," he said. "However, the bonds of friendship and multifaceted cooperation which link them make it possible to reduce this distance. We are convinced that, as fruitful cooperation India and the USSR increases, the relations between our countries and peoples will further strengthen and will become even closer."

In his speech I.V. Arkhipov expressed confidence that the documents signed and the plans outlined at the session will serve the further development of economic, scientific, and technical links between the two countries and the strengthening of Soviet-Indian friendship.

SOVIET NUCLEAR 'THREAT' TO INDONESIA DENIED

LD131156 Moscow World Service in English 1531 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Excerpts] A number of anti-Soviet articles have appeared in Indonesia's media. The newspaper BERITA BUANA for one tried to make its readers believe that Soviet nuclear weapons pose a danger to Indonesia. Anatoliy Aleksandrov comments:

What argument did the BERITA BUANA use? The presence of nuclear-capable submarines in the Soviet Pacific Fleet. The paper saw in Soviet submarines a danger to Indonesia. However, its surmises bear no substantiation. In the first place, the USSR pledged not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. In this connection, the Indian newspaper NATIONAL HERALD -- which reflects the views of government circles -- says this: If the other nuclear powers follow this example the war threat would considerably recede. This, however, hadn't happened yet so the nuclear threat allegedly stemming from the USSR is an invention pure and simple. As for the Soviet submarines' ability to launch nuclear missiles from the depths of the ocean mentioned by the BERITA BUANA, it is indispensable in the advent of having to rebuff American aggression.

It is common knowledge that the Pentagon is working out plans for destroying the socialist part of the world and for gaining military supremacy over the USSR. Incidentally, the Soviet Union built its submarines of the Typhoon class in response to the emergence of advanced nuclear-capable subs of the Ohio class in the United States.

At one time, the Soviet Union suggested more than once that the United States and itself close this channel in the arms race. Its proposals were rejected however. The United States also rejected the subsequent Soviet proposals on limiting the number of such submarines and on damning the modernization and development of new ballistic missiles carried by these submarines. Such is the truth and it is futile to distort it.

CSSR'S INDRA COMMEMORATES TREATY ANNIVERSARY

PM122030 Moscow PRAVDA in Russain 12 Dec 83 First Edition p 4

[Article by Alois Indra, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and chairman of the CSSR Federal Assembly: "Tested by Life"]

[Text] Prague -- The Soviet-Czechoslovak treaty on friendship, mutual aid, and postwar cooperation was signed in Moscow 40 years ago. This act is of truly historic significance for the Czechoslovak people.

The words uttered by Klement Gottwald are most topical even today: "The 12 December 1943 Moscow treaty lays a firm, indestructible foundation for our future national and state life. This treaty rid our peoples of the very heavy burden they had borne for centuries: the burden of fear for their existence. This treaty gives us a firm foundation, but we ourselves must construct the building in which we and those who come after us must live."

For the Soviet Union's part, the treaty's conclusion was a manifestation of friendship toward the Czechoslovak people, a friendship which had its own traditions. No one will succeed in striking from history the fact that in 1938 only the USSR was ready to help us against Hitler's expansionism. In July 1941 it reaffirmed its friendship by the agreement on joint actions with Czechoslovakia in the war against Nazi Germany. The Soviet Union was this the first to fully recognize the sovereignty and legal existence of our republic after 1939 and to treat it as an ally with equal rights. Only after that did similar recognition follow from other states. The 1943 Mosocw treaty thus represented the logical continuation of the friendly acts of the first socialist country with respect to Czechoslovakia.

A decisive contribution to the treaty's conclusion was made by the Moscow leadership of the CPCZ. Klement Gottwald and his comrades-in-arms drew the correct conclusion from our country's historical experience, expecially from the capitulationist policy of Czechoslovakia's bourgeois government and prewar Western allies and from the Munich betrayal which had tragic consequences for the whole world. In accordance with the Czechoslovak people's will and desires the CPCZ strove to ensure that our country's future was guaranteed by its alliance with the USSR and that Czechoslovakia never again became a pawn on the chessboard of imperialist politics. It was not easy to implement this line because there were in the London emigre forces that were gambling on the beaten card of a pro-Western orientation.

The Czechoslovak-Soviet alliance treaty also predetermined the terms of the talks between the Moscow leadership of the CPCZ and the Republic's president, E. Benes, who at that time accepted the CPCZ's demands: not to allow the return to power of the compromised reactionary forces, to restore the democracy represented by the national committees as organs of the people's power, to safeguard the existence of unified public organizations, to recognize the leading role of the bloc of socialist parties, to create a new government on the liberated territory, and to give the people the right to resolve for themselves the question of their ultimate internal system. All this was a victory for the policy of the communists who had sought to ensure that the national liberation struggle merged into a popular deomocratic revolution.

The Moscow treaty reinforced the strength of the resistance within the country and abroad and served as an incentive for the active participation of the Czechoslovak military unit in conjunction with the USSR in the struggle against the Nazi occupiers. Soviet material and cadre aid revitalized the partisans' activity on Czechosovak territory. To support the Slovak national uprising the Soviet leadership drafted operational plans and carried out the extraordinarily difficult Carpathian-Dukla operation during which servicemen of the Czechoslovak military units formed in the USSR set foot on their native land.

Our people's hopes were realized: the heroic Red Army soldiers brought us freedom. By accomplishing the astonishingly swift Prague operation the Soviet troops helped insurgent Prague and saved our capital from destruction. The peoples of Czechoslovakia will never forget that they are indebted for their salvation and the restoration of their state sovereignty and national freedom primarily to the immeasurable sacrifices of the Soviet people, the friendship and loyalty of the USSR, and its commitments as an ally. Over 140,000 Soviet soldiers and officers gave their lives on Czechoslovak land alone in the struggle against the common enemy.

On every sector of liberated territory the Soviet troops immediately handed over power to the Czechoslovak people's organs. Convoys of raw and semifinished materials were dispatched to us. That helped to restore our industry.

The Soviet Union's friendship, tested by time and practice, and its army's liberation mission exerted considerable influence on the thinking of Czechoslovak citizens, and the CPCZ authority in our society grew unprecendentedly.

Conditions were gradually created for the development of the people's democratic revolution into a socialist revolution. In that period the positive impact of the Czechoslovak-Soviet treaty was beyond doubt.

When the struggle for victory, the struggle for the development of the popular democratic revolution, entered its decisive phase, the alliance treaty safeguarded our Republic's security and averted imperialism's military intervention. As a result, with the people's active support the attempted reactionary putsch was thwarted in February 1948 and the CPCZ led the working class to political power. Czechoslovakia had embarked on the path of socialism.

It is no exaggeration when we say that all our efforts in developing industry and forming cooperatives in agriculture, in the flowering of education and culture, in social policy, in the growth of public and personal consumption, are primarily the result of the many years of fraternal Czechoslovak-Soviet cooperation.

This cooperation is manifested specifically in supplies of Soviet iron ore, nonferrous metals, oil, natural gas, cotton, grain, machinery of a high technical standard, mining dquipment, and such consumer goods as clocks and watches, cameras, radios, television sets, and much else. Soviet aid in the construction of the Prague subway is exceptionally valuable. The Soviet Union is our biggest trading partner and its orders are a guarantee of the long-term development of the Czechoslovak processing industry.

Production sharing between the enterprises of the two countries is constantly expanding, and scientific and technical cooperation is developing on the basis of the principles of mutual advantage. Our participation in the construction of capital projects in the USSR makes it possible to cover Czechoslovakia's long-term requirements for several types of raw material and energy. It is difficult to cite all the forms of our cooperation in the field of culture, education, and health care. The lively ties between public organiz ations and the constantly expanding tourist exchange are of great benefit to both sides. Nothing can measure the valuable experience passed on to us by the Soviet Union and its Leninist Communist Party over all these years.

In brief, the 1943 alliance treaty has created conditions for developing relations of a new type based on mutual respect and the fraternal understanding of our mutual needs. The alliance with the USSR also demonstrated its vitality in the late sixties when Czechoslovak communists and patriots were defending the socialist revolution's gains against the attacks of the counterrevolution.

The signing of the new treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance on 6 May 1970 in Prague by the leaders of both countries was the logical result of all this experience. This was in line with the level attained in cooperation and with the present stage of development of Soviet and Czechoslovak society, and with the new phenomena in international relations.

The new treaty expresses the close voluntary links between sovereign independent states guided by the ideology of Marxism-Leninism and the principles of socialist internationalism. It consolidates the mutual responsibility for defending the gains of socialism, creates conditions for the broadest bilateral and mutually advantageous cooperation in politics, the economy, and culture, and expresses the unity of both countries in the struggle against imperialist aggression and their support for all progressive and peace-loving forces in the world. In other words, the 1970 Prague treaty reflects the higher qualities of fraternal and allied ties existing in the relations between the USSR and the CSSR.

Much useful work has been done over the last 13 years in the spirit of the new treaty. Mutual economic cooperation has expanded even further, and it makes use of much better forms, especially in the development of science and technology and the implementation of their achievements in practice. Both countries have also substantially expanded their participation in multilateral relations within the CEMA framework, including the coordination of economic policy. Our fraternal cooperation has also spread to outer space: Czechoslovak citizen V. Remek was the first representative of another country to fly into outer space, while Czechoslovak scientists participate actively in space research.

The comprehensive development of Czechoslovak-Soviet cooperation reflects the truly fraternal ties between the CPSU and the CPCZ. They serve as a reliable guarantee that our alliance will rise to ever higher levels. The ideas contained in Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's speeches at the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) and June (1983) Plenums, at the festivities to mark the 60th anniversary of the foundation of the USSR, and his principled article "Karl Marx' Teaching and Some Questions of Socialist Building in the USSR" are of great and inspiring significance for the practice of building developed a socialist society in Czechoslovakia.

The alliance with the USSR is also a source of the growth of Czechoslovakia's prestige on the international arena. Together with the other Warsaw Pact states we stand shoulder to shoulder with the Soviet Union in its efforts to prevent the martilization of the militarist plans of the most aggressive circles of imperialism, and especially of the incumbent U.S. Administration. We have actively supported the USSR's initiatives aimed at continuing the policy of detente, halting the arms race, and gradually attaining total disarmament.

The responsibility for the unprecedented exacerbation of the international situation is borne by imperialism, and primarily by the U.S. Administration which, intoxicated by its "crusade" against communism, is striving to disrupt the prevailing military equilibrium between NATO and the Warsaw Pact. Nothing can justify the actions by those governments which have agreed to the siting of new U.S. missiles on their territories. The deployment of U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles in West Europe has today become a grim reality.

Under these conditions the world public understands that the USSR and its allies are forced to take appropriate measures in the defense sphere. In its own interests, and in the interests of the defense of the Warsaw Pact states, the CSSR is ready to fulfill its alliance obligations. The Czechoslovak public unanimously supports Yu.V. Andropov's statement: Together with the Soviet Union, we will continue to consider it our main task to step up the struggle for universal peace and support the efforts made by all peace-loving forces to solve problems via political talks.

The significance and meaning of the Czechoslovak-Soviet treaty were vividly described by Comrade G. Husak in his 6 May 1970 speech, following the signing of the new alliance treaty: "... The rebirth of our national and state freedom, the existence of the Czechoslovak state, and the entire period of the building of socialism in our country have confirmed the irrefutable fact that without the closest of fraternal ties with the Soviet Union there could be neither freedom, nor independence, nor socialism for Czechoslovakia's peoples."

Even since 1943, when the Moscow treaty was signed, the fruitfulness of the Czechoslovak-Soviet alliance has been tested by life. We assure the Soviet people,

our most reliable and loyal ally, that the Czechoslovak people consider it their patriotic and international duty to apply daily in their domestic and foreign policy the spirit and the letter of the current treaty of friendship, cooperation, and mutual assistance. The slogan "love for love, loyalty for loyalty" is topical for us today, and it will remain topical in the future.

## [illegible] DISCUSSED

[illegible] to Romania 1700 GMT 3 Dec 83

[text] [illegible] by the CPSU Central Committee General Secretary and Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Yuriy Andropov, in which he presents the Soviet position on [illegible] in Europe has roused great interest in the world. This is proved by the letters that arrive at Radio Moscow from various countries. In some of them, listeners ask how this problem emerged and if there are still possibilities to resolve it and so forth.

On the basis of the suggestions and questions, we have worked out a radio program [illegible]

When did nuclear weapons first appear in Europe? Shortly after the conclusion of World War II. We are referring to the U.S. B-29 planes with nuclear weapons on board. [illegible] had been deployed by the United States at their bases in [illegible]. At that time, the Soviet Union did not possess nuclear weapons at all.

When did the Soviet Union begin deploying nuclear weapons in the European part of the [illegible]? At that time, the United States had deployed in Western Europe hundreds of planes with nuclear weapons on board and nuclear missiles to which the nuclear potential of France and England -- member-countries of the NATO [illegible].

In [illegible] the Soviet Union achieved approximate equality with the NATO countries in [illegible] nuclear weapons -- missiles and planes. After that, the Soviet Union [illegible] measures exclusively to maintain the military balance of forces in Europe.

In the event of [illegible] the intermediate-range nuclear weapons currently being [illegible] the deployment of the U.S. Pershing II and cruise missiles, the [illegible] to the FRG, England, and Italy is a fait accompli, the balance of [illegible] NATO had 857 planes and missiles while the Soviet [illegible] it is important to mention that NATO possessed almost one and a half times [illegible] than the Soviet Union.

Has the Soviet Union put forward tangible proposals aimed at freeing -- be it only partially -- Europe from nuclear weapons? Repeatedly. Both before the beginning of the Geneva negotiations and during the negotiations which became possible only thanks to the Soviet initiative and which the Reagan administration accepted only after a year of delay. What does the Soviet position consist of? It consists of radically cutting back the level of nuclear weapons by both sides; however, to do this in such a manner as to [illegible] the balance of forces between them will be maintained.

Why does the Soviet Union give such great importance to maintaining military parity. [illegible] in accordance with the security interests of all European countries, without exception, the [illegible] balance of military forces, including nuclear forces, [illegible] between the NATO member-countries and the Warsaw Pact member-countries [illegible] has served the cause of security and stability in Europe. It must be remembered that Europe has lived in conditions of peace for almost 40 years, longer than most of modern history.

Why did the Soviet Union view its participation in the Geneva negotiations as impossible?

During the 2 years of negotiations, the United States did everything to avoid at the Geneva negotiations and outside them, to prevent the conclusion of a mutually acceptable agreement. The essence of its position always boiled down to preserving considerable military superiority over the USSR by deploying new U.S. missiles in Europe.

In November, although the negotiations were still continuing, the United States officially confirmed by the representatives of the FRG, England, and Italy -- governments -- proceeded to deploy its new missiles in those countries. Under such conditions, the continuation of negotiations would only protect the actions of the United States and by other NATO countries aimed at undermining European and international security.

This is why the Soviet Union -- as forewarned -- considered the further participation in the negotiations impossible. To what does the deployment of the new missiles in Western Europe lead? To seriously worsening the military-strategic situation not only in Europe but also throughout the world. The U.S. nuclear missiles are not at all assigned to defend Western Europe, which actually is not threatened by anyone.

Along with the deployment of U.S. nuclear missiles in Europe not only is Europe's security not increasing, but the real danger exists that the United States will push its own peoples into a catastrophe. The U.S. leaders believe that only Europeans, through their lives, through their cities, will be able to distinguish the punishment due to the United States if Washington would give in to the temptation of launching a nuclear war in the illusory hope to win it. Punishment will not overtake the United States. However, Washington's adventurism may be too costly for the whole world. The U.S. aggression against Grenada has demonstrated that the danger of unpredictable more and more frequently exceeds all bounds. It is impossible for the citizens of the United States to learn at least when Washington will make the decision to press the buttom.

How can one understand the sentence that a change on the military situation will occur not only in Europe but throughout the world? The deployment of the new missiles would mean that almost 600 new nuclear weapons will be added to the U.S. nuclear forces capable of reaching Soviet territory. Already, those land- and sea-based medium-range bombers deployed in Western Europe are able to hit targets in the European part of the USSR's European territory, while no Soviet intermediate-range weapon, not even an SS-20 missile, deployed in the West of the Ural Mountains, can reach the territory of the United States.

By deploying the new Pershing and cruise missiles in Europe, Washington does not only seek to undermine the military balance in Europe, but to overturn the existing real military-strategic balance between the Soviet Union and the United States.

What does the Soviet Union intend to do? At the Moscow meeting of the political consultative committee of the Warsaw Pact member-countries and the conference of the leaders of the socialist countries stated that they will by no means accept the military superiority of the NATO bloc over the Warsaw Pact member-countries and will not be harmed by the United States of deploying first-strike missiles in Europe.

What tangible measures will be taken? The pledge assumed by the Soviet Union regarding the moratorium on deploying Soviet intermediate-range nuclear weapons in the European part of the USSR will be canceled unilaterally. This moratorium was observed for a whole year last year. It had been strictly observed. Moreover, the number of medium-range missiles in the European part of the USSR has even been cut back.

In October Yuriy Andropov stated that if the United States would renounce the deployment of its nuclear missiles in Western Europe by the deadline announced and would thus make it possible for the negotiations to continue and to seek mutually acceptable solutions, the Soviet Union then (?could proceed to reducing) its SS-4 (?weapons) in the European part of the country, whose number exceeds 220, and to eliminate them in 1984 and 1985.

Will other measures be taken following the deployment of U.S. Euromissiles? Yes. And not only in Europe. The Americans will inevitably feel the difference between the situation before the deployment of their missiles in Western Europe and the situation after. In agreement with the GDR and CSSR Governments, preparations that have begun some time ago will be accelerated to deploy enhanced-range tactical operational missiles in the territories of those countries. Soviet nuclear weapons will also be deployed in ocean and sea areas. As for their characteristics, those weapons will match the danger that U.S. missiles deployed in Europe create for the USSR and its allies. It must be stressed that the retaliatory measures by the Soviet side will be strictly maintained within the limits imposed by the NATO countries' actions.

As Yuriy Andropov reasserted in his statement on 24 November, the Soviet Union does not aspire to military supremacy and will do only what is absolutely necessary so that the military balance will not be overturned.

Does this mean that the new cycle of the arms race begun by the United States can no longer be stopped? If the United States and other NATO countries express their desire to return to the situation that existed before the deployment of the U.S. intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe, the USSR will also be ready to do the same thing. In this case, the proposals made by the Soviet Union before on problems of limiting and reducing nuclear weapons in Europe would be valid again. Thus, the unilateral commitments of the USSR in this field would come into force. The Soviet Union, as before, favors the most radical solution to the problem of nuclear weapons in Europe. Its proposal that Europe should generally be free from nuclear weapons -- both as concerns intermediate-range and tactical weapons -- remains in force.

Will the current turning point in the development of events in Europe influence the general line pursued by the Soviet Union in its foreign policy? Here is what Yuriy Andropov's 24 November statement says in this respect: The Soviet Union declares with great determination and very clearly that it will continue to pursue the principled line of halting the arms race, primarily of the nuclear arms race, of cutting back and finally completely eliminating the danger of a nuclear war. It will continue to make all necessary efforts to achieve these noble goals.

As Yuriy Andropov said, fulfilling the Soviet people's desire, the Soviet Government will do all it can to preserve peace for the present and future generations.

## CSSR'S STROUGAL ON USSR-CSSR RELATIONS

PM131513 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by Lubomir Strougal, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and CSSR premier: "Lessons of the Past"]

[Text] Prague -- For 35 years now the Czech and Slovak peoples have been living under conditions of socialism, taking full advantage of their revolutionary gains and life values received from free labor and the true power of the people.

The conviction that friendship and fraternal alliance with the Soviet Union constitute the main guarantee of our country's state sovereignty and national independence has taken deep root in their consciousness. Now, in the particularly complex international atmosphere, we realize this fact with the utmost keeness.

The Treaty of Friendship, Mutual Assistance, and Postwar Cooperation concluded 40 years ago on 13 December 1943 was of exceptional and fundamental significance for the development of Czechoslovak-Soviet relations. The historic importance of this treaty was that it changed Czechoslovakia's previous foreign policy orientation, which had failed the difficult tests. The treaty met the long-standing aspirations of our people, who had never hidden their sincere and profound feelings of friendship for the Soviet Union.

The Czechoslovak bourgeoisie ruling the pre-Munich republic linked the country's fate with the imperialist world. Key positions in the Czechoslovak economy were given over to Western capital. Blinded by class hatred of the first proletarian state and driven into a corner by their Western protectors, the bourgeoisie led the country to national catastrophe, loss of independence, and the dismemberment and occupation of the republic by fascist Germany in March 1939. The bourgeoisie preferred to take the path of capitulation and betrayal rather than ask for assistance from the Soviet Government.

From the grim trials, the broad strata of the Czech and Slovak peoples derived the firm determination to prevent a repetition of the tragedy. The spirit and letter of the new Czechoslovak-Soviet Treaty of 1943 were sealed by the blood shed jointly in battle against the fascist occupiers at Sokolovo, Kiev, and Belaya Tserkov on the Soviet-German front. Immediately after the signing of the treaty, Klement Gottwald stressed: "The Soviet Union's might, which is already tremendous and in the future will become even greater, just like the Soviet Union's word, which is as solid as a rock -- all this is a guarantee for us that Munich and all that followed it will never be repeated."

The conclusion of the treaty marked a great victory for the CPCZ which, from the moment of its foundation, defended the need to establish relations of friendship and alliance between our country and the Soviet Union. It inspired the participants in the Slovak national rising and the Czech people's May rising to heroic struggle and created the secure foreign policy conditions for our national democratic revolution. The precise and uniquely accurate motto under which socialist Czechoslovakia has lived its entire life was born; with the Soviet Union forever, and never otherwise!"

The fact that "we draw on the storehouse of Soviet experience and feel every day the Soviet Union's direct support and assistance," as Comrade Gustav Husak has said, was a tremendous support and good fortune for us in the struggle for socialism, for the solution of the most complex tasks of socialist building, in good times and bad.

Internationalist cooperation with the Soviet Union is the cornerstone of all our work in building a developed socialist society. The role of this cooperation in our national economy and in raising the people's living standard is exceptionally great. The economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between our countries increases with each 5-year plan and with each passing year. Its volume and effectiveness are increasing, existing forms are deepening, and new forms are emerging, and the principle of mutual economic benefit is being put into practice. The Soviet Union is our main trading partner. Trade turnover between our countries has increased by over 13 percent annually in the past decade. The USSR's share in the total turnover of Czechoslovak foreign trade has risen from 32.5 to 42 percent.

The exchange of goods from the Czechoslovak processing industry for supplies of Soviet raw materials and fuel, which create a stable basis for our economic development, is of inestimable significance for us. This factor is of particular importance if one takes into account conditions in the capitalist market, which have worsened acutely for us. The Soviet Union takes over two-thirds of Czechoslovakia's export of specialized machine building output to the CEMA countries. At the same time, we could hardly fulfill our programs and plans without importing Soviet machine tools and advanced equipment.

The USSR is not only the socialist community's political and economic but also its scientific and technical nucleus. This fact assumes particular significance now that the CPSU and the CPCZ, like the fraternal parties of the other socialist countries, are posing the task of intensifying economic development and efficiently combining the advantages of the socialist social system with the potential and achievements of the scientific and technical revolution. Czechoslovakia is only just beginning to develop its own cybernetics, electronics, and robotics, and in light of our limited scientific and technical potential we can only fulfill these tasks through close cooperation with the USSR. We derive indisputable advantages from cooperation in the computer, nuclear power industry, and space equipment spheres.

We expect to increase our participation in the creation of new capacities for the USSR's extraction industry. The process of modernization and reconstruction of the Soviet light and food industries opens up broad opportunities for our machine building industry.

Another very important political aspect of our economic cooperation has emerged particularly clearly in recent years. The fact is that it helps us to a considerable extent to resist the discriminatory measures being applied against us by reactionary forces. In the matter of Czechoslovak-Soviet economic relations we have long had in mind not only the exchange of goods but also, primarily, the increasingly close rapprochement between our states' economies, which is vitally important to the Czechoslovak national economy.

We are united by common interests and aims not only in the economic, scientific, technical, ideological, or cultural spheres, of course, but also -- to an equal extent -- in the foreign policy and defense spheres. In accordance with the currently operative 1970 Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance, we are coordinating our foreign policy aimed at ensuring a reliable and fair peace in Europe and throughout the world, at ending the nuclear arms race, and at creating a system of international relations based on the principles of peaceful coexistence, security and mutual trust.

The policy of detente and the gradual reduction of tension that the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, supported by all peace-loving mankind, managed to introduce into practice of international relations on a world scale, achieved successes in the seventies of tangible benefit to all sides involved. Regarding Czechoslovakia, it was during that period that the notorious Munich agreement was finally annulled, that relations with our neighbors Austria and the FRG improved, and that the CSSR's ties with virtually all the European states and with other countries in the world broadened.

But we cannot fail to see that the most reactionary imperialist circles in the United States and their allies in the West European countries are now pushing mankind toward a dangerous path. Their main aim is to achieve military superiority over the Soviet Union and the socialist community and to destabilize socialism as a real social system. By intensifying the role of the military factor in foreign policy, imperialism is trying to reverse the world revolutionary process and change the political situation in the countries liberated from colonial oppression.

America's cynical invasion of Grenada is the latest example of such a course.

The present U.S. Administration is making particularly dangerous moves in Europe, where it is stubbornly embroiling its partners in actions aimed against the relaxation of international tension and in the implementation of broad-scale military programs and is calling for imperialist class solidarity and the observance of "alliance discipline." The new missiles in Europe are first strike weapons. They upset the previously existing approximate strategic equilibrium on our continent. They also represent a direct threat to our country's security. That is why the Warsaw Pact countries, including the CSSR, were forced to take the necessary measures to defend the people's socialist gains and their country's security and independence.

One of these measures is the agreement on preparatory work for the deployment of operational-tactical missile complexes on our territory. The GDR has a similar agreement with the Soviet Union's Government. If some people believe that they can alter the military balance and secure unilateral advantages for themselves, they are proceeding from false premises and harboring futile hopes. The Czechoslovak people fully share and support the 24 November statement by Comrade Yu. V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

It is well known that since the war the United States has started dozens of minor wars and military conflicts and waged broad-scale wars in Korea and Indochina, that it has military bases in dozens of countries, and that it equips every bellicose dictator with weapons. At the same time, U.S. officials hypocritically and shamelessly try to appear before their own and the world public as people concerned to strengthen peace. Now, however, there are few who would let themselves be lulled by their speeches, since everyone can see their real deeds and the true character and aims of their policy.

The citizens of the CSSR are fully aware of the danger looming over their homeland and support the necessary defense measures that we have been forced to adopt. Our country stands firm on the western edge of the socialist world, and its inhabitants know that they can always rely fully in all things on their great and loyal ally, the USSR, with which we have common interests and goals and with which we are struggling jointly against the danger of a new war and for a peaceful life throughout the world.

SHITIKOV, RUBEN MEET WITH CSSR'S HANES

PM140950 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Dec Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Parliamentarians' Meetings"]

[Text] A meeting was held 12 December betweeen A.P. Shitikov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union, and D. Hanes, deputy chairman of the CSSR Federal Assembly and first deputy chairman of the Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship Union Central Committee, who is in the USSR at the invitation of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries.

On the same day a meeting was held between the guest and V.P. Ruben, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities.

The conversations stressed the important role of both countries' parliamentarians and public in strengthening and defending the socialist gains of their peoples and the entire socialist community's peoples and in the struggle of the planet's peace-loving forces against the threat of nuclear war.

ZHIVKOV SAYS ARMS TALKS 'SHOULD BE CONTINUED'

LD121424 Moscow TASS in English 1309 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] New Delhi December 12 TASS -- In the present-day dangerous situation there is no task more pressing and responsible than the task to ensure peaceful coexistence of mankind. This was stated in an interview to the Press Trust of India by general secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, President of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria Todor Zhivkov before his official visit to India, that began today. Peace is of great significance for all people, and, certainly for the peoples of the socialist countries. The aims and the tasks that we set to ourselves can be most fully put into life, and in a brief period of time, only provided peace is preserved on earth. Exactly therefore the struggle of all progressive and democratic forces, sober-minded and far-sighted statemen and politicians against imperialism and militarism, for preventing of a nuclear war and limitation of the arms race, for preservation of peace and consolidation of detente, for development of cooperation is of a really decisive significance.

Touching upon the question of the deployment of Pershing and cruise missiles on the territory of a number of West European countries, Todor Zhivkov emphasized that the deployment of these missiles by the United States and its NATO allies have the aim to disrupt the existing military and strategic balance, to attain military superiority over the countries of the socialist community, and is a direct threat to universal peace.

To guarantee our security, to preserve peace on earth, we are compelled to thwart the attempts of attaining military superiority over the socialist countries, said Todor Zhivkov. The People's Republic of Bulgaria fully supports the measures which were announced in the statement of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Yuriy Andropov on November 24, 1983.

The president of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria emphasized that the United States bears the entire responsibility for the current worsening of the international situation. The United States came to the Geneva negotiations with the only aim -- to mislead the international public, he said. It is well-known that the United States has not accepted any of the constructive peace proposals that were put forward by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. Moreover, the United States proposed an absolutely absurd unilateral disarmament of the Soviet Union. It is natural that after the commencement of the deployment of American missiles in Western Europe, the Geneva negotiations lost any meaning and had to be terminated. The Geneva negotiations can be resumed only if the United States and its NATO allies return to the situation that existed before the commencement of the deployment of new American missiles, said Todor Zhivkov. The negotiations should and can be continued, but only on the basis of the observance of the principles of equality and undiminished security.

Touching upon the initiatives of socialist countries, aimed at relaxation of tension in East-West relations, Todor Zhivkov recalled that the socialist countries proposed to make Europe free from nuclear weapons both of medium-range and tactical, to conclude a treaty on non-use of military force and on the maintenance of the relations of peace between the Warsaw Treaty member states and the NATO member-states, to freeze nuclear armaments, and a number of other initiatives. Unfortunately, no answer has been received so far to any of these realistic and concrete proposals, he noted.

Todor Zhivkov highly appraised the state of Bulgarian-Indian links. I am happy to note that relations of confidence, friendship and cooperation exist between Bulgaria and India, he stressed. Contacts in economy, science and technology, culture became further developed in the past few years. The Bulgarian and Indian peoples have a vital stake in reducing and fully removing the threat of a nuclear catastrophe, in limiting the arms race and attaining disarmament.

ANTONOV ROLE IN POPE SHOOTING DISPELLED

LD131623 Moscow TASS in English 1454 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] Rome December 13 TASS -- The documents of the investigation in the case of the May 1981 attempt on the life of the head of the Roman Catholic Church John Paul the Second have been handed over to the prosecution department of Rome. On the basis of these documents the judicial authorities are to make the decision on the extent of the guilt of the persons involved in the crime and also to consider the demand of the council for the defense of representative of the Bulgarian air company Sergey Antonov, artificially drawn into the case, of his release. Sergey Antonov who was arrested about a year ago on the false charge of his involvement in the attempt on the life of Pope of Rome is still in prison.

The local press stresses that the main "prosecutor" of S. Antonov is Turkish terrorist Ali Agca who perpetrated the crime. His disclosures which followed after he was thoroughly "influenced" in prison, were turned out by the very course of the investigation. It took Italian investigators and their Bulgarian colleagues much time to untie the tangle of Agca's lies and fabrications. It is only with the help of a number of experiments in the course of the investigation, a series of confrontations and thorough comparison of facts that it was proved that the Turkish terrorist tried to shift the entire blame on Bulgaria's citizens so as to receive the "benefits" promised to him for that and even a possible cut in the prison term.

KADAR RECEIVES USSR FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION

LD111019 Moscow in Hungarian to Hungary 1730 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] Janos Kadar today received Zinayda Kruglova, who is leading the Soviet delegation at the Budapest conference of the leaders of the socialist countries' friendship societies. During the meeting, which was held in a warm, friendly and comradely atmosphere, the Hungarian leader expressed his satisfaction with the work of the Soviet-Hungarian Friendship Society, which serves the strengthening of the friendship and mutual understanding between our peoples.

## ALIYEV SEES GORBACHEV OFF FOR PCP CONGRESS

LD140856 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] A CPSU delegation headed by Comrade Gorbachev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, left Moscow today for Oporto to take part in the 10th Portuguese Communist Party [PCP] Congress.

Comrade Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and other official personages saw the delegation off at the airport.

## FINNISH FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVAL, TALKS REPORTED

### 13 Dec Arrival

LD130820 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] At the invitation of the Soviet Government, Finnish Minister of Foreign Affairs Vayrynen arrived in Moscow today on an official visit. The guest was met at Leningradskiy Station [in Moscow] by Comrade Gromyko, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and USSR minister of foreign affairs, and other officials. Among those meeting him was Ambassador of Finland to the USSR Karhila.

### Talks With Gromyko

LD131823 Moscow TASS in English 1800 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow December 13 TASS -- Talks took place in the Kremlin today between Andrey Gromyko, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, and Paavo Vayrynen, Finland's minister of foreign affairs, who today arrived in the Soviet Union on an official visit at the invitation of the Soviet government.

In the course of the talks, which passed in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding that are traditional of bilateral relations, the sides noted with satisfaction that relations of goodneighbourliness between the Soviet Union and Finland were making steady and consistent progress on the basis of the 1948 treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance and in accordance with the agreements reached between Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and Mauno Koivisto, president of the Finnish Republic, last June. Long-term prospects for Soviet-Finnish relations have been ensured by the latest prolongation of the 1948 treaty for another 20 years.

In discussing international affairs, the two foreign ministers voiced profound concern over the fact that the world situation continued to grow worse, particularly in Europe which went through two devasting wars already this century.

In the light of Yuriy Andropov's statement of November 24, the Soviet side stressed that, having gone ahead with the deployment of U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles in a number of West European countries, the United States and NATO dealt a bad blow to the cause of peace and security in Europe. Responsibility for the existing situation is borne by the governments of the United States and those NATO countries which gave their consent to the deployment of missiles in their territories. The situation is further aggravated by the decisions of the recent winter session of the NATO council, keynoted by the further exacerbation of the arms race and escalation of international tension.

As for the Soviet Union, it remains loyal to its principled course of ending the arms race, primarily the race in nuclear weapons, and removing the threat of war and will continue to make every effort to achieve these objectives.

In exchanging opinion on the situation in the north of Europe, the sides noted the growing importance of Finland's proposal on establishing a nuclear weapon-free zone in that region and the Soviet Union's readiness to contribute to the provision of beneficial conditions for the fulfilment of that major initiative.

Paavo Vayrynen said Finland would continue to make efforts to strengthen peace, security and cooperation in Europe and to contribute towards ending the arms race and achieving disarmament.

The sides discussed other major international problems, related to the bridling of the arms race and the elimination of the persistent seats of tension and armed conflicts in different parts of the world.

## SOVIET-FINNISH ECONOMIC SESSION REPORTED

### Patolichev Greets Sorsa

LD122039 Moscow TASS in English 1900 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow December 12 TASS -- A Finnish delegation led by Kalevi Sorsa, prime minister of Finland, chairman of the Finnish part of the permanent intergovernmental Soviet-Finnish commission for economic cooperation, arrived in Moscow today to attend the 28th session of the commission.

At the airport the delegation were met by Nikolay Patolichev, minister of foreign trade of the USSR, chairman of the Soviet part of the commission, and by other officials.

### Cooperation Discussed

LD131139 Moscow TASS in English 1102 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow December 13 TASS -- The standing inter-governmental Soviet-Finnish Commission on Economic Cooperation opened its 28th session here today. According to Finland's Prime Minister Kalevi Sorsa, who is heading his country's delegation to the talks, the session will map out directions for cooperation between the two countries till the end of the decade.

The Finnish delegation, comprising about forty people, includes Finance Minister Ahti Pekkala, foreign trade minister Jermu Laine, representatives of other ministries, banks, commerce chambers and joint-stock societies.

The Soviet delegation is led by Foreign Trade Minister Nikolay Patolichev who is chairman of the Soviet section of the Commission. The delegation comprises representatives of the USSR's State Planning Committee, State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, Ministries of Electric Power Development, Ferrous Metallurgy, Non-Ferrous Metallurgy, Chemical Industry, Forestry, Wood-Working and Pulp-and Paper Industry, and other departments.

The session's participants are discussing a broad range of issues related to the implementation of the long-term programme of developing and deepening trade, economic, industrial, scientific, and technical cooperation till 1995.

They are to examine progress of the implementation of the current five-year trade agreement between the USSR and Finland and start the development of a new agreement for the period of 1986-1990.

They will also discuss questions related to prospects of deepening cooperation in building industrial and other projects on the territory of Finland, the Soviet Union and third countries, in developing co-production and other forms of mutually beneficial cooperation.

During the Moscow session, an annual meeting of the Finnish-Soviet Chamber of Commerce and a seminar on questions of developing cooperation between industrial enterprises of the Soviet Union and Finland will be held at the International Trade Centre.

TALYZIN ATTENDS FINNISH EMBASSY RECEPTION

PM091349 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "On the Occasion of Holiday"]

[Text] On 6 December A. Karhila, Finnish ambassador to the USSR, held a reception on the occasion of the national holiday of Independence Day.

The reception was attended by B. Yazkuliyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; N.V. Talyzin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; the leaders of a number of ministries and departments; and other officials.

A delegation of the Finland-Soviet Union Society led by Finnish Minister K. Suonio was present.

SOVIET-FINNISH TRADE UNION GROUP MEETS IN MOSCOW

PM131628 Moscow TRUD in Russian 13 Dec 83 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Soviet-Finnish Trade Union Commission Session Has Opened"]

[Excerpt] A Finnish trade union delegation arrived in Moscow 11 December to participate in the 27th session of the Soviet-Finnish Standing Trade Union Commission. The delegation includes representatives of the Finnish Central Trade Union Organization headed by organization Chairman P. Viinanen, of the Central Organization of Employees' Trade Union (TVK) headed by its chairman M. Kinnunen, of the Central Organization of Specialists with Higher Education (AKAVA), headed by its chairman R. Lehtinen, and of the Central Union of Technical Employees' Organizations (STTK) headed by its chairman J. Reini.

The 27th session of the Soviet-Finnish Standing Trade Union Commission opened yesterday.

The Soviet delegation at the session is headed by AUCCTU Chairman S.A. Shalayev.

There was an exchange of information on the work of the two countries' trade unions, and problems of the current international situation and the role of trade unions in the struggle for peace and disarmament were discussed. The commission examined questions relating to the state of and prospects for the development of ties between the two countries' trade unions. A cooperation protocol for 1984-1985 will be signed.

FINLAND, USSR SIGN PROTOCOL ON BORDER CROSSINGS

LD132154 Helsinki Domestic Service in Finnish 1700 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Summary] The possibilities of opening new border crossing stations for passenger trains between Finland and the USSR will be studied. This was decided during a visit to Finland by Soviet Minister of Railways N.S. Konarov. The visit ended today.

"It was also agreed in a protocol signed at the end of the visit that efforts will also be made to develop the Vartius border crossing station for the transportation of goods other than pellets from Kostamus. On the Finnish side the protocol was signed by Minister of Communications Matti Puhakka."

FINNISH GROUPS URGE HALT TO EUROMISSILES

LD102316 Moscow TASS in English 2136 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] Helsinki December 10 TASS -- The leaders of NATO member states should heed the voice of Western European peoples and cancel the deployment of new American medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe, representatives of several Finnish public organisations told today members of Finland's parliament.

During the meeting, the public representatives called on the Finnish parliamentarians to approach the legislative bodies in other Nordic countries with a proposal on the immediate beginning of talks with a view establishing a nuclear-free zone in Northern Europe.

MEDVEDEV DEPARTS FOR PCE CONGRESS MEETING

LD131129 Moscow TASS in English 1051 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow December 13 TASS -- Vadim Medvedev, member of the Central Auditing Committee of the CPSU and head of the Department of Science and Educational Establishments of the CPSU Central Committee, today left Moscow for Madrid to attend the 11th Congress of the Communist Party of Spain.

CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE GREETS 11TH PCE CONGRESS

PM140941 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Dec 83 First Edition p 1

[Text] To the 11th Congress of the Communist Party of Spain:

The central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union greets the 11th Congress of the Communist Party of Spain, Spanish Communists and wishes them successes in the struggle for the vital interests of their people.

Your congress is taking place at a time which gives rise to alarm to all of mankind. The most aggressive imperialist circles of the United States and NATO, disregarding the interests of other states and peoples, are seeking to gain dominant positions in the world, heightening tension, escalating the arms race and threatening to place mankind at the brink of nuclear war. The started deployment of new American missiles on European soil is aimed at gaining military superiority over the USSR and the countries of the socialist community, is leading to a real threat of the United States' bringing disaster on the peoples of Europe.

This needs to be said in connection with one of the resolutions adopted at the Sheffield conference. Along with an expression of disquiet and indignation at Washington's aggressive militarist course, its speaks of "regret" at the Soviet Union's declared conviction regarding the impossibility of its further participation in the Geneva talks on nuclear arms in Europe. This section of the resolution provoked serious debate at the conference. The voices of the speakers who pointed to the numerous initiatives by the Soviet Union and the other socialist states aimed at averting a new round in the nuclear arms race in Europe and achieving an accord at Geneva were convincing and carried weight. Yu.V. Andropov's 24 November statement is being attentively studied by British peace campaigners as a document of great importance.

Thus a new and stubborn struggle over the key problems of peace and security on our continent lies ahead.

UK ANTIWAR PROTEST HELD AT CRUISE MISSILE BASE

LD120101 Moscow TASS in English 2023 GMT 11 Dec 83

[Text] Greenham Common (Berkshire county) December 11 TASS -- British anti-war campaigner today held a national day of protest against the siting of American cruise missiles in Great Britain. Tens of thousands of protesters from all parts of the country gathered near the military base at Greenham Common for a massive rally that crowned a week of action against the American nuclear missile deployments, observed here and in other countries. The demonstration was timed to coincide with the fourth anniversary of the NATO decision to base 572 cruise and Pershing 2 missiles in Europe.

Linking their hands, the British peace campaigners encircled the military base where work is currently under way on assembling the first Tomahawk nuclear missiles brought in by American giant military transport planes from the United States. "No to cruise death", "We need peace, not war", "Stop nuclear madness," chanted the protesters.

Dozens of demonstrators have been arrested by the police.

Anti-war actions were also held today in Scotland, Wales and other places.

STALIN MENTIONED IN BOOK ON WARTIME TIES WITH UK

PM081332 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Dec First Edition p 4

[TASS report "From the History of Soviet-British Relations"]

[Text] The second volume of a collection of documents "Soviet-British Relations during the Great Patriotic War 1941-1945" [Sovetsko-Angliyskiya Otnosheniya Vo Vremya Velikoy Otechestvennoy Voyny 1941-1945] has been published. The two-volume collection was published for the first time. Among them are records of conversations held by head of the USSR Government I.V. Stalin with British Prime Minister W. Churchill and that country's foreign secretary, records of conversations held by the USSR People's Commissar for Foreign Affairs and by Soviet representatives in Great Britain with British leaders and diplomats, and diplomatic correspondence between the two states.

An important place is taken in the collection by the Crimean Conference Communique, the conference protocol, a report on the Berlin Three-Power Conference, and documents relating to the final stages of the war which include the statement of the German armed forces' unconditional surrender and the statement of Japan's surrender. The collection's materials make it possible to trace the development of relations between the Soviet Union and Great Britain during that historically complex period.

The book is published by the Politizdat publishing house.

## BRIEFS

BRITISH EXHIBITION IN UZBEKISTAN -- An exhibition of British scientific, technological and medical books has been opened in Tashkent. The exhibition has been organized within the framework of the cultural cooperation agreement between the two countries. A total of 300 books published by the British publishers are in the exhibition. In a statement to our correspondent, the organizers of the exhibition said that a soviet (?industrial) book exhibition is being held with success in Britain. The people of London, Newcastle, Brighton, and Edinburgh have welcomed the book exhibition. The Committee of Book [word indistinct] in Britain has thanked the Uzbek State Committeee for publishing houses, printing plants and the book trade for the successful organization of the British book exhibition. [Text] [Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 1 Dec 83 GF]

SHULTZ VISITS N. AFRICA TO 'SWEETEN' ARAB STANCE

LD122142 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 12 Dec 83

[Aleksandr Timoshkin commentary]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, good evening. Last weekend the U.S. Secretary of State paid a surprise visit to Tunisia and Morocco, which the United States calls moderate states and even friends of the United States. George Shultz has expressed satisfaction at the outcome of his talks with the leaders of Tunisia and Morocco. But this satisfaction is to a great extent artificial. The press of the two countries and all the opposition forces in Tunisia opposed the two visits of the White House emissary, thus reflecting the anti-U.S. trends. The two Tunisian opposition parties, the Movement of Social Democrats and the Popular Unity Movement, described the Shultz visit as provocative. The two parties believe that, in the light of the anti-Arab policy of the Reagan administration and the increasingly aggressive policy, it would have been better for the leaderships of the Arab countries not to have received the American officials.

It is not an exaggeration to say that Shultz's lightning visit to Tunisia and Morocco was carried out in order to sweeten the Arabs' very adverse reaction to Washington's new plans to consolidate and widen its political and military strategic alliance with Israel. These steps have caused a particular impact in those Arab countries described as moderates and with which the United States wishes to maintain its relations. But life has shown time and time again that the propaganda visits by the representatives of the Reagan administration to the Arab countries do not alter anything in its increasingly clear pro-Israeli and anti-Arab trend.

Moreover, whenever Washington talks about its efforts for peace in the Middle East and about its desire to follow a balanced policy in the region, it turns in practice into an armed and harsher direct interference by the United States in the Arabs' affairs. Today the United States is threatening the security and independence of every Arab state irrespective of the course of development it is pursuing. When the United States consolidates with every means its strategic alliance with Israel it is thus challenging all Arabs without exception, the progressives and the moderates alike.

I believe that it must be clear today more than ever that as far as all the Arab countries are concerned the time has come to begin coordinated collective action. In this respect they have a plan that was laid down last year and that was endorsed unanimously at the Fez summit conference.

It must be obvious to all Arabs nowadays that their disunity helps the intensification of the aggressiveness of the U.S.-Israel strategic alliance, which currently is not facing an active collective resistance by the Arabs. If there were a single Arab front to resist the Zionist-U.S. aggressive forces, certainly Washington and Tel Aviv would not have dared to act as brazenly as this. What do we see today? Syria is being subjected to pressure by the United States and Israel, not merely politically but also militarily; and the Palestinian resistance is now in an extremely difficult position.

True, it is receiving specific support from certain Arab states, plus the support of the Soviet Union and the other socialist states. But as many Arabs rightly say, one cannot possibly always be content with repelling the attacks of the forces of aggression; one must take more resolute actions, and collectively, otherwise what would happen?

The Army and Navy of the United States open fire from heavy guns on Lebanon, directly shelling its towns and villages, and the United States presents the Zionist enemy with further billions of dollars and huge shipments of modern weapons. At the same time talks are held to develop relations between the United States and certain moderate Arab countries, some of which export billions of dollars. Washington uses these Arab dollars to finance Israel and the American programs in the Middle East. It goes without saying that voices are being increasingly raised nowadays in the Arab world demanding the use of all Arab means and resources for active struggle against the aggressors.

In conclusion, I will say a few words about the Soviet stand on the very grave current events in the region. PRAVDA said a few days ago that the Soviet Union strongly condemns the aggressive actions of the United States and Israel, and the Soviet Union declares anew at the same time its full solidarity with Syria and Lebanon and other Arab countries that are opposing the U.S. Israeli attempts to impose their subjugation terms for settlement in the Middle East by force. These terms -- and I repeat this -- are imposed by the United States and-Israel on all the Arab countries without exception, preferring to deal with each of them separately. If the Arab countries were united in a cohesive front, the U.S.-Israeli aggressive alliance would not have dared to disregard with such impudence their national rights and vital interests. Thank you, peace be upon you.

U.S. SHIPS SHELL LEBANESE MOUNTAIN REGIONS

LD131748 Moscow TASS in English 1723 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] Beirut December 13 TASS -- The ships of the U.S. Sixth Fleet concentrated off the Lebanese shores brought under heavy fire today the mountain regions of Lebanon east of Beirut. At the same time, U.S. warplanes made reconnaissance flights over the Lebanese territory, coordinating the fire of naval artillery. An official U.S. representative in Beirut, who confirmed the fact of another armed action, stated impudently that the U.S. troops included in the "multinational force" reserved the right to deal blows when they found it necessary.

Radio Beirut reported that Israeli naval ships which are blocking the north Lebanese port of Tripoli intensively shelled today the positions of detachments of the Palestine Liberation Organization. Palestinians retaliated by opening fire.

Fire on Syrian Positions

LD132139 Moscow TASS in English 2111 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] Damascus December 13 TASS -- U.S. warships sailing in the area of the port of Juniyah, Lebanon, fired today at the positions of the Syrian contingent of the inter-Arab peacekeeping force in Lebanon. A statement of an official military representative of the Syrian Arab Republic circulated by the SANA news agency points out that simultaneously with the bombardment, U.S. "F-14" planes flew over the Syrian positions in the area of Metna [TASS spelling]. The Syrian anti-aircraft defence units forced the planes to turn back. Syria's representative described the actions of the U.S. military as an act of aggression planned beforehand.

## EGYPT, ISRAELI PRESS HIT U.S. AIR RAIDS

PM131617 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Dec 83 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Peresada dispatch under the general heading "Condemnation of An Aggressive Alliance. The Crimes of Washington and Tel Aviv Under the Fire of Criticism"]

[Text] Cairo, 12 Dec -- For the first time in the past several years doubts have been raised here about the official claim, prevailing since the Camp David times, that "the United States is a participant with full rights in the Near East peace process." The United States can play such a role only when it "takes a considered position toward the Arab people's interests and Israel's demands," B. Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, declared in an interview with the Egyptian news agency MENA.

Even the Israeli press voices obvious concern in connection with the growing adventurism within U.S. and Israeli ruling circles. The U.S. contingent in the "multinational forces" in Lebanon is turning into an interventionist corps, the newspaper AL HAMISHMAR concludes. "It is time it was realized that there are limits which should not be exceeded," the newspaper YEDI'OT AHARONOT emphasizes in connection with the recent air raid by U.S. aircraft on the positions held by Syrian units which are part of the inter-Arab peacekeeping forces in Lebanon.

## SYRIANS MARCH AGAINST 'IMPERIALIST PRESSURE'

LD131525 Moscow TASS in English 1441 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] Damascus December 13 TASS -- Thousands of residents of Damascus -- workers, employees, youth and students, representatives of public and religious circles took to streets of the capital of Syria today to participate in a mass demonstration of protest against imperialist pressure upon Syria. The demonstration was held at the call of political parties and organizations affiliated with the national progressive front of the Syrian Arab Republic. The demonstrators marched in the main streets and squares of the city, carrying national banners and placards denouncing U.S. armed interference in the affairs of peoples in the Middle East: "USA, get out of Lebanon", "Conspiracy of imperialism and reaction shall not pass".

The demonstration of the residents of the capital city resolved into a mammoth meeting. A speech at the meeting was made on behalf of the leadership of the country by Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, Ba'th regional assistant secretary general. He strongly criticized the aggressive alliance which was concluded between the military of the United States and Israel and which is directed against the national interests of the Arab peoples, against Syria, against Lebanese national patriotic forces and the Palestinian revolution.

Syria shall not yield to imperialist diktat, said Mashariqah. It shall not be intimidated by dirty provocations of American military and aggressive encroachments of Israel. Our people and the armed forces will be defending till the end the territory of the republic, its freedom and independence.

The participants in the manifestation adopted an appeal in support of the anti-imperialist, progressive course of the Syrian Arab Republic. They declared their determination to continue the struggle for the legitimate interests of the Syrian and other Arab peoples, against the dangerous aggressive collusion of imperialism, Zionism and their flunkeys in the Middle East.

A message of General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Syria Khalid Bakash was distributed at the meeting. In the message there is a call upon the communist and workers' parties of the Arab countries and the whole world to launch a broad campaign of solidarity with the people of Syria opposing the malicious onslaught of the U.S. imperialism, NATO and their expansionist ally Israel.

U.S., ISRAELI AIMS IN LEBANON ANALYZED

PM131547 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 14 Dec 83 p 9

[Igor Belyayev "Viewpoint" under the rubric "International Life": "Near East: Topsy-Turvy, or Peace According to Reagan and Shamir"]

[Text] A new round of the completely open U.S. pressure on Syria has begun, and Israel has joined in. At the end of last week Israel's new Prime Minister Shamir started talking about "Damascus' aggressive course," "Syrian military threat," and so forth. He even asked the question: Is Syria not undertaking a new adventure in Lebanon?

Such assertions and questions are obvious preparations for war. Remember how Begin and Sharon -- together with Shamir, as it happens, -- prepared the invasion of Lebanon. At that time, in the winter and spring of 1982, the Israeli politicians and military were talking about the "aggressiveness" of Lebanese and Palestinians, the "threat" to Israel allegedly posed by the PLO, and so forth.

There is nothing unexpected in the behavior of Israel and its prime minister. I will remind you that the Reagan-Shamir talks in Washington ended only a week before the recent U.S. raid on Syrian units in Lebanon. The "strategic cooperation" between the United States and Israel, suspended as a result of the Golan Heights annexation, was revived. A turn for the worse began in the Near East.

And all of a sudden -- shock! The United States encountered resistance, it lost two aircraft, which of course, was totally unexpected. That was when Reagan turned to Israel with the proposal for urgent participation in anti-Syrian military actions. Hence Shamir's defiant bellicosity in the past few days and his claims of a "Syrian danger" and totally unjustified accusations against Damascus of...preparing war against Israel! The statements about the "inexperience" of U.S. Air Force pilots are also typical. They are simply intended to make it known that the Israeli Air Force can be thrown in against Syria.

Let us try to analyze events. Yes, Syria does oppose Israel and its "longest" war in Lebanon. Nevertheless, not a single Syrian leader, political or military, threatens war, against either the United States or Israel. The Syrian units in Lebanon have not fired on the U.S. Marines occupying positions close to Beirut Airport. Damascus does not need such a dangerous complication of events. Nor is Syria organizing a "new adventure" in Lebanon. It simply does not need that. People in Damascus prefer to concern themselves with their own defense and the efficient deployment of new air defense complexes. They make no secret of what has happened. Who can forbid Syria to consolidate its air defenses? Is Syria not a sovereign and independent state?

Furthermore, the Syrian Air Force does not carry out reconnaissance flights either over the U.S. Marines' positions in Lebanon or over Israel. On the contrary, the U.S. and Israeli Air Forces are constantly overflying Syrian units' positions in Lebanon. So, who is preparing for a new military action, and against whom?

Now, following the Reagan-Shamir talks in November, people in Tel Aviv incessantly bring up the fact that Israel is the only staunch U.S. ally in the Near East and that the U.S. can rely on it, and on it alone, not on the Arabs. They also say that Israel is "capable" of restraining Syria. From what? Could it be that the consolidation of Syrian air defenses is threatening Israel? Of course not! It is easier to continue the war against the Arabs under the camouflage of claims about a "Syrian threat."

But there is something of which I would like to remind Mr Shamir. In the first place, servility to the United States, even if the services are rendered in Tripoli, in northern Lebanon where PLO leader 'Arafat is, is not very popular among his compatriots. The antiwar struggle in Israel is intensifying. The Israelis do not want more funerals. And Shamir is taking matters toward a continuation of the killings. He seems to have forgotten that one of the slogans carried by participants in antiwar demonstrations in Israel sounds a warning to him: "Peace is greater than Greater Israel!"

Second, the Israelis, just like the American Air Force, could encounter resistance. What will the Israeli prime minister claim then? "Soviet interference" in the Near East affairs." We have already heard similar things from Begin. And where is he now? Absurd accusations will not help Shamir to justify new Israeli army losses in Lebanon.

Third, the revival of the U.S.-Israeli "strategic cooperation," which has already led to a deterioration in the Near East military and political situation, can in no way help a Near East settlement. On the contrary, it exacerbates the situation in the region.

As for Shamir's words that "Israel is forced," "Israel warns," and other clearly aggressive expressions which have been put into circulation before the next Israeli adventures against the Arabs, they prove only one thing: Tel Aviv has not learned any lessons from the "longest" war in Lebanon and, just as in the past, relies on war as the basic means of solving the Near East problems. Although it has been repeatedly proven that such actions lead to a worsening of the situation and the emergence of numerous dangers. And not only at the regional level, either. The intensification of this trend could have rather numerous consequences. Some of them quite unexpected, as well.

## 'NO HOPE' FOR 'SWIFT SETTLEMENT' IN NEAR EAST

LD082109 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1745 GMT 8 Dec 83

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Viktor Anikin]

[Text] Criticism is growing in the United States of the reckless involvement of U.S. forces in Lebanon in a new adventure. Hear what Yevgeniy Petko, our correspondent, has to report from New York:

There is no hope of a swift settlement of the Near East conflict, but there is the daily risk of a dangerous military clash in this region. It is with such pessimism and revelation that the present course of the Reagan administration is assessed in an evening news broadcast on U.S. television.

Other statements go even further in their appraisals and comparisons. An editorial article in THE NEW YORK TIMES calls on the Washington administration to get out of Lebanon before the new year. Representatives of the Democratic Party in Congress, which has now recessed for the Christmas holidays, are demanding the convocation of an extraordinary Congress session to discuss U.S. military interference in Lebanon. Because on the instruction of the President, U.S. bombers are for the first time in many years since Vietnam, again carrying out strikes on foreign territories.

Another circumstance is very important: This time the United States, using the most advanced combat means, has operated openly against the Arab population and Lebanese military-political forces, on the side of Israel. This is taking place literally days after the proclamation in Washington of a new era in U.S.-Israeli military-political cooperation. According to one of the most recent public opinion polls, 56 percent -- that is, more than on half -- of Americans are against the dangerous policy of President Reagan in the Near East. According to recent reports another 10 victims of this policy are returning to the United States in zinc caskets. It is too late to save them. There is no doubt that after the new funerals, many more people will also understand the growing danger to which the government is exposing them.

## COMPARISON OF PRAVDA EDITORIAL ARTICLE ON LEBANON

Moscow PRAVDA on 10 December in its Second Edition on page 5 carries an Editorial Article on the situation in Lebanon entitled "PRAVDA Hits U.S., Israeli Mideast Policy". This has been compared with the version of the same Editorial Article of 10 December PRAVDA carries in its First Edition, published in the 12 December Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page H 1, revealing the following variation:

Page H 3, paragraph five, lines two and three in the Second Edition read: ...Arab masses' reaction. Syria and a number of other Arab states have issued a sharp... (rewording)

## LIBYAN AIR FORCE COMMANDER ARRIVES IN MOSCOW

PM131105 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Dec 83 Second Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "Arrival in Moscow"]

[Text] On 12 December Colonel S.M. al-Farjani, commander of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah Air Force, arrived in Moscow.

Col S.M. al-Farjani was met at the airport by Chief Marshal of Aviation P.S. Kutakhov, commander in chief of the Air Force and USSR deputy defense minister, and other Soviet generals and officers.

## S. AFRICAN MINISTER'S VISIT TO W. EUROPE VIEWED

PM131621 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 4

[A. Nikanorov "International Commentary": "A Trip With an Aim"]

[Text] Surely no official visit has been surrounded with such a cloak of secrecy and silence as South African Foreign Minister Roelof Botha's present visit to Western Europe.

Indeed, both Pretoria and the capitals receiving its envoy have every reason for showing the utmost caution. It is well known that the apartheid regime, which flouts the most elementary human rights and expounds the tactic of banditry against neighboring sovereign states, is sharply condemned by the international public at large. Bearing in mind that his pilgrimage coincided with the UN General Assembly's discussion of the granting of independence to Namibia, Botha has had to listen to a good deal of criticism of his government. As a REUTER correspondent in Lisbon reported, "Portugal's leaders, who have expressed solidarity with their former colonies of Angola and Mozambique, opposed South Africa and openly stated to Botha that they are worried by the recent events in this region and by the deadlock at the talks on Namibia, which South Africa continues to govern despite UN decisions." On the initiative of the Green Party faction, a special session was held in the West German parliament at which it was stated that the FRG Government, by cooperating with the racist regime, is conniving at terror and repression against South Africa's indigenous population. "Stop the disgraceful cooperation with the racists!" and "Botha, go home!" the demonstrators chanted in London as they besieged the Foreign Office Building, where the far from easy British-South African talks were being held. On the banks of the Thames they have still not forgotten how Pretoria crudely told the British prime minister "not to poke her nose into other people's affairs," and she had to reproach the apartheid ringleaders somewhat for their obdurate policy.

Nevertheless, following the talks with British Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe, Botha stated: "We disagreed more on terminology than on matters of substance." The reference is to the main aim of the trip by the head of the foreign policy department: that of forcing the Western powers to openly support Pretoria's demands for a settlement of the Namibian crisis and, specifically, the main demand -- the withdrawal of the Cuban troops from Angola. Botha confidently stated to journalists in London: "In fact all five members of the contact group (now there are four: France has announced its decision to withdraw -- A.N.) are basically in agreement on the question of this linkage, although only the United States is declaring this officially."

Incidentally, in Rome Botha also met with C. Crocker, U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs. It was he, acting in full accord with the "crusade against communism" doctrine, who formulated the plan torpedoing the national liberation movement. Its main aim is to prevent a repetition of the "Rhodesia option" whereby the patriotic forces came to power in Zimbabwe. This is why the White House has engaged in "constructive cooperation" with Pretoria, which Reagan has called a "traditional ally." This why the United States alone said "no" at the UN General Assembly session to 10 out of 11 draft documents envisaging sanctions against the apartheid regime. This is why C. Crocker twisted his partners' arms at a secret conference in London in an attempt to embroil them in Washington's course.

The ambiguous stance of the Western powers that are holding talks with Pretoria's envoy -- not to publicize their links with Pretoria and at the same time to afford it all-round support -- is easy to explain.

Namibia for them is a source of natural wealth which they do not want to lose. And Pretoria's intention to install its own puppets in this African country fully meets the interests of the monopolies that are shamelessly plundering the wealth. That is what the South African visitor is counting on. However, the final word does not belong to him or his interlocutors.

## CPSU DELEGATION LEAVES FOR SAO TOME, PRINCIPE

PM130931 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Dec 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "CPSU Delegation's Departure"]

[Text] A CPSU delegation headed by A.S. Kapto, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, left Moscow 11 December for the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe at the invitation of the Movement for the Liberation of Sao Tome and Principe Central Committee.

## CIA SPOKESMAN'S DENIAL OF UNITA AID DECRIED

PM131652 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 4

[V. Kirillov "Pertinent Remarks": "Law, But Not For the CIA"]

[Text] A verbal skirmish took place recently in the pages of the U.S. press between NEWSWEEK magazine and a CIA spokesman. The U.S. weekly publicly accused the "cloak and dagger" department of continuing to give assistance to Angolan bandit formations, in particular the grouping the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, in their subversive terrorist activity against the Angolan people. According to NEWSWEEK, the CIA "trains, supplies weapons to, and gives financial aid" to antigovernment groupings operating on Angolan territory.

The issue of the magazine had not had time to go on retail sale before a CIA spokesman -- one Peterson -- hastily called a press conference.

"Nothing of the sort," he declared. "NEWSWEEK magazine is distorting the facts. We do not train, supply, or finance..."

When Mr Peterson finished his sentence, correspondents put a venomous question to him: If you deny the accuracy of the NEWSWEEK article, why are U.S. shells bursting in Angola, U.S. guns firing, and bandits trained to U.S. standards operating? Why is all this happening now that the U.S. Congress, after the scandal that broke out, has banned the funding of secret CIA operations in Angola?

Without batting an eye, the CIA spokesman blurted out: "We are subject to the law. We do not break the law."

Far from everyone has had occasion to hear such a thing from the lips of a CIA spokesman. The CIA subject to the law? During the present administration's rule, moreover? Is this a joke? Not even world-wise U.S. journalists take such a thing seriously. There must be some confusion here, one of the journalists declared: Either the CIA is again pulling the wool over everyone's eyes with its misinformation, or our laws make it possible to shoot quite innocent people, burn them with napalm, poison them, and torture them. At any rate the experience of Vietnam, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Angola, and Lebanon attests that the laws of the "Washington kingdom" are very different from those which are generally accepted in the civilized world.

SUPREME SOVIET CABLES VENEZUELA'S LUSINCHI

PM131606 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Dec 83 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Exchange of Telegrams"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has sent Jaime Lusinchi a telegram conveying cordial congratulations on his election as president of the Republic of Venezuela. The telegram expresses the confidence that the relations of friendship and cooperation existing between the Soviet Union and Venezuela will continue to develop to the benefit of the peoples of our countries, in the interests of consolidating peace and international international security.

In an answering telegram J. Lusinchi has expressed thanks for the cordial congratulations and noted the need "to continue the quest for peace and mutual understanding as the only possible form of international coexistence."

KISSINGER COMMISSION TOUR 'PROPAGANDA TRICK'

LD132234 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1522 GMT 13 Dec 83

Mexico, 13 Dec (TASS) -- The visit to Mexico and Venezuela by members of the so-called National Commission on Central America, led by former Secretary of State H. Kissinger, is being seen here as a new propaganda trick. It is reported that they will meet with President M. de la Madrid and B. Sepulveda, secretary of foreign relations, in Mexico. The Reagan administration asserts that the talks are apparently to aid the commission in working out proposals aimed at achieving a political settlement in Central America.

Washington propaganda is portraying Kissinger's mission as the United States "contribution" to the search for ways to reach a peaceful solution of Central American problems, a search which has been undertaken with determination by the countries of the "Contadora group". However, this publicized hullabaloo has been greeted in diplomatic and journalistic circles with open skepticism. Few people in Latin America believe in the good intentions of President Reagan at a time when the clouds of armed aggression being prepared by Washington have gathered over Nicaragua, and when blood is flowing in Salvador.

Kissinger's commission, said a group of eminent Mexican scientists, aims to mask the policy of force being pursued by Washington. It is very clear that the United States continues to reckon on a purely "military solution" to the problems of Central America.

No 'Results' in Mexico

LD140923 Moscow TASS in English 0914 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Mexico City December 14 TASS -- The brief visit to Mexico by members of the so-called National Commission of the United States for Central America led by former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger has ended without any meaningful results.

During Kissinger's talks with Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid and Foreign Minister Bernardo Sepulveda it was made clear to him that Mexico is not going to support U.S. interventionist policy in Central America and wants all contentious issues to be settled peacefully.

BUSH 'SERMON' ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN EL SALVADOR HIT

LD131629 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Excerpts] U.S. Vice President George Bush leading the highest level American delegation to ever visit El Salvador made a brief stopover in that country on Sunday. Talks on human rights reportedly dominated the delegation's visit. Our observer Yuriy Reshetnikov in his commentary discusses the human rights issue in El Salvador:

Against the background of mounting violence in El Salvador perpetrated by the country's regime, Mr Bush's sermon on human rights must have sounded like a lot of Greek to the Salvadorean rulers. In a toast, offered at the end of his brief visit, Mr Bush said his role in visiting San Salvador was to express as clearly as possible President Reagan's so-called revulsion at the activities of the death squads. Indeed, while George Bush droned on with his message, allegedly aimed at stopping the reign of terror in that country, death squad activities were at their record high level. Notably, the leader of the ultra-rightist alliance, Roberto d'Auguisson, who is behind the death squad activities spurned George Bush's invitation to attend a dinner on Sunday. Apparently he had to attend to more urgent business of his, and more to his taste, that of keeping El Salvador's populace in a permanent state of terror.

The vice president's visit to El Salvador came at a time when Washington was sending what is generally viewed as conflicting signals to the country's rulers regarding its campaign of terror. On the one hand, President Reagan professed his revulsion at the activities of the death squads. On the other, he vetoed legislation which linked improvement in the human rights situation with American aid to El Salvador.

It's generally believed that while criticizing the Salvadorean regime and its death squads with (?a) campaign of terror, the White House intends to continue military aid despite them. If necessary, Washington is prepared to look the other way when a bunch of Salvadorean Army cutthroats get back to their normal activities, that is, hunting down critics of the regime. This is precisely what the U.S. Administration has done since Congress first introduced the legislation linking U.S. military aid to progress in human rights. In the meantime, administration officials have amused themselves and the world with a bit of wishful thinking. Said the vice president addressing the Salvadorean rulers: You are in the front lines fighting for liberty against communist aggression. But the crucial battle is not for territory, it's for men's minds, he said.

While the Reagan administration has yet to uncover communist aggressors in El Salvador, it would be equally challenging to convince other people that the Salvadorean regime is anything but a murderous pack of criminals.

ARGENTINA MOVES TO ANNUL 'SELF-AMNESTY LAW'

LD140901 Moscow TASS in English 0851 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] Buenos Aires November 14 TASS -- The new Argentinian Government has introduced its first bill in National Congress (Parliament), calling for the annulment of the so-called law on appeasing the country, which is also known as the "Self-Amnesty Law". That law relieved the military, who had taken part in operations to combat "subversive activities" in the curse of which tens of thousands of Argentinians had been killed or "disappeared", of responsibility and punishment.

Announcing the bill's introduction on national television, President Raul Alfonsin described the "Self-Amnesty Law" as unconstitutional, violating human rights, morally unacceptable and politically inadmissible.

The abrogation of that law, he said, would make it possible to launch inquirites into all cases of terrorism and operations by the military and security services to combat "subversive activities" with a view to punishing those guilty for their violations of law.

SHITIKOV WELCOMES BRAZILIAN PARLIAMENTARIANS

LD131746 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 13 Dec 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] Today a delegation of the Brazilian National Assembly, which is in our country on an official visit, led by First Deputy Chairman of the Chamber of Deputies, (Cicero) de Vasconcelos, paid a visit to the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

The guests were welcomed by Comrade Shitikov, chairman of the Soviet of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet. The parliamentarians of both countries expressed their desire to further broaden contacts in the interests of peace and international cooperation. Taking part in the conversation was Sizinio Pontes Nogueira, Brazil's ambassador to the USSR.

On the same day the parliamentarians laid wreaths at the Mausoleum of Vladimir Ilich Lenin and the Unknown Soldier's Grave at the Kremlin Wall. The guests visited the Museum of the Study and Apartment of Lenin in the Kremlin.

GRENADA 'TEST RANGE' FOR U.S. CHEMICAL WEAPONS

LD090750 Moscow TASS in English 0645 GMT 9 Dec 83

[Text] Moscow December 8 TASS -- The trace, which was left on Grenada by the 82nd Airborne Division is not only bloody, but is also poisonous. According to a report of the influential Mexican newspaper EL DIA, the Pentagon, seeking to "democratize" the island in a brief period of time, used chemical weapons against civilians. A tragic lot fell on two thousand people with women and children among them: They were poisoned (?reads) an article which was printed today by the newspaper IZVESTIYA.

Earlier the U.S. chemical test range was South East Asia, and then -- Guyana and then -- Afghanistan, now -- Grenada, and tomorrow?

Modernization of the chemical arsenal, that has been ventured by the U.S. Administration, is bound to devour a total of about 5,000 million dollars, in the estimation of Senator Mark Hatfield, and the figure is as big as 10,000 million, according to the data of the American press.

The U.S. nurtures these plans when the U.S. stocks of toxic agents are already 150,000 tons which largely [word indistinct] quantity enough to kill the whole population of the planet without fail, the article stresses. 124,400,000 dollars are to be allocated in the current fiscal year only for the production of new, particularly barbarous variety of chemical weapons -- binary nerve gas ammunition. Possibly, exactly Grenada became for American special services the test range for its latest trial -- in conditions approaching maximum combat ones.

The use of chemical weapons in Grenada looks like a classical example of "secret operation" against a sovereign state. The poisoned islet in the ocean is the symbol of disregard for norms of human morale, the symbol of terroristic methods used by Washington to attain its foreign policy goals in the maniacal desire to keep in check winds of social changes, which are growing stronger not only in the Caribbean basin but also in other parts of the planet, IZVESTIYA writes in conclusion.

## NICARAGUAN ENVOY VIEWS 'POLITICAL SITUATION'

PM090930 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 49, 2 Dec 83 pp 12-13

[Interview given by Nicaraguan Ambassador to the USSR Jacinto Suarez to NOVOYE VREMYA correspondent A. Baryshev: "Loyalty to Sandino's Ideals" -- first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] Jacinto Suarez Espinoza, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Nicaragua to the USSR, received NOVOYE VREMYA correspondent A. Baryshev and answered his questions.

Question: Comrade ambassador, what are the main tasks that the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) now sets for itself?

Answer: At the present stage the FSLN's main task is to mobilize the people in defense of the revolution and enhance their militancy and their anti-imperialist revolutionary spirit.

In the military field, the tasks of the FSLN, our people's vanguard, are to consolidate the Sandinist People's Army and educate its soldiers and commanding officers ideologically and politically. We are strengthening the cadres in our state security organs. Now it is extremely important for the FSLN to become a force exerting a decisive influence on all aspects of society's life.

Question: Please describe the domestic political situation in Nicaragua and, even if only in outline, the situation in the regions bordering on Honduras and Costa Rica.

Answer: The situation in Nicaragua is now notable for the people's unprecedented political activity. Our people are in a state of permanent mobilization. They are organized, armed and prepared to defend the motherland against any attempted intervention.

The situation is very tense in the regions bordering on Costa Rica and Honduras. They are in fact the scene of a war launched by the United States, which organized and arms the Somozist counterrevolution. The situation is especailly complicated in the zones bordering on Honduras, because the Honduran authorities, having joined a de facto alliance with the United States, are turning their country into a springboard for aggression against Nicaragua.

In regard to Costa Rica, the attitude of its leading circles towards us is not unanimous. In addition to those who are ready to play up to the U.S. interventionist plans, there are also politicians who do not support -- at least at this moment -- the course of confrontation with the Sandinist revolution. If the upper hand in that country is gained by forces advocating mutual understanding between our two states, this would correspond with our mutual interests.

Question: What can you say about the activities of the internal counterrevolution? From which social strata does it draw its strength? How dangerous is it?

Answer: The counterrevolution's positions inside the country are very weak because it lacks a social base. Our enemies are trying to make use of religious groups, consisting mainly of Catholic church officials. But not even they present a serious danger: The people counter their intrigues with revolutionary vigilance and political conscientiousness. Political groups opposed to the revolution also exist in the country. Nevertheless, these ideological enemies of ours also lack a mass base.

Question: What is the Sandinist leadership's attitude toward the Contadora group? Why does Nicaragua insist on bilateral talks with the United States and Honduras? What is needed for their success?

Answer: The Contadora group which, as is well known, consists of Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, and Panama, is making the most serious efforts of all that have been made so far to resolve the Central American crisis. So far, however, this group has not achieved anything. The reason is mainly the U.S. striving to prevent a solution of the crisis by political means. The fact that the interests of various countries clash in Central America also has its effect.

We consider that the Contadora group can play its role in the transition from confrontation to dialogue, provided it does not fall into the trap of imperialism which intends to resolve political problems only by way of force.

We insist on bilateral dialogue with the United States and Honduras for fully understandable reasons. You, see, the "dirty war" against Nicaragua is being waged from Honduran territory and the United States behind the Somozists. The United States allots millions of dollars for the conduct of this war, supplies arms, sends advisers, and conducts military maneuvers.

The U.S. Administration must understand that the Sandinist Government is legitimate and has come to power with the people's support. This is a political reality which cannot be ignored. Nicaragua is an independent country and rejects the diktat which the United States is accustomed to using in Latin America. Provided the United States respects our principles, a Nicaraguan-U.S. dialogue can take place. The Sandinist Government has put forth specific proposals in order to start it.

Question: U.S. propaganda claims that the Sandinists are restricting the private sector and renouncing political pluralism and Sandino's ideas. What is your opinion on this?

Answer: Yes, the Somozist private sector has been truly restricted because it damaged the interests of the overwhelming majority of people, the interests of the revolution. But there still remains a private sector in our country and it plays an important role in the economy. Let me give an example. Under Somoza, Alfredo (Pellasa) was the largest owner of capital in Nicaragua. Now he continues his entrepreneurial activity. The inviolability of his property (enterprises and capital) is guaranteed. But only for as long as his enterprises are working and creating benefits, for as long as he himself does not take part in conspiracies against the revolution.

A system of political pluralism is in action in Nicaraguan. All parties in our country are allowed to engage in the propaganda of their ideas and to submit their proposals. But we do not give them a free hand to attempt to damage the people's interests.

Nothing could be more false than the accusations that we have consigned Sandino's ideals to oblivion. Sandino was Nicaragua's best son, a people's hero and selfless fighter against imperialism, for his motherland's freedom. Nicaragua's Sandinist revolution brings Sandino's ideals to life because it protects the people's interests against encroachments by the imperialists. We consider ourselves to be the continuers of his revolutionary activity. That is why those who killed Sandino are now up in arms against us.

## NICARAGUA'S BORGE EXPECTS 'MAJOR INVASION' SOON

LD131524 Moscow TASS in English 1345 GMT 13 Dec 83

[Text] Managua December 13 TASS -- The counter-revolutionary army of mercenaries, which was formed by the United States on the territory of Honduras, is preparing to stage a new major invasion of Nicaragua in the next few days, said Minister of the Interior of the Republic Tomas Borge.

The counter-revolutionaries intend to strike the main blow in the direction of the Nueva Segovia Department, he said in an interview to TASS correspondent Sergey Gorbunov. From 3,000 to 4,000 mercenaries, who were supplied by the CIA with newest types of armaments, are now aiming at that area. Their aim is to try to capture the Nicaraguan settlement of Teotecacinte located on the frontier with Honduras. It is not ruled out that Somoza groupings will be supported by the Honduran Army with the help of which they are planning to penetrate into Nicaragua as deep as possible and to turn occupied land into a springboard for broadening the aggression.

The recent time witnesses concentration of mercenary gangs near the northern part of the Zelaya Department and on the Costa Rican territory.

Somoza men plan mass terroristic action against peasants and volunteers who participate in the harvesting of coffee in the frontier zone, the minister said. Counter-revolutionaries plan to thwart agricultural work and thereby strike a tangible blow on the country's economy.

The American Government, Tomas Borge said, is now trying hard to frustrate negotiations on settlement of the crisis in Central America, but the powerful movement in defence of peace, developing in Latin America and the United States itself, stands in its way.

The peace policy of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries plays a major role in curbing U.S. aggressive designs. This policy patently shows to the peoples who really cares for the good of mankind and who imposes bloody wars on it, the minister stressed in conclusion.

KAZAKH SSR SUPREME SOVIET TO CONVENE 10 JAN

LD131033 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 0005 GMT 10 Dec 83

[Text] Decree of the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium on convocation of the Supreme Soviet of the Kazakh SSR.

The Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decrees to convoke the Seventh Session of the 10th convocation of the Supreme Soviet of the Kazakh SSR on 10 January 1984 in Alma-Ata.

[Signed] Imashev, chairman of the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; Demesinov, secretary of the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

UKRAINIAN SUPREME SOVIET TO CONVENE 13 JAN

AU141058 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 14 Dec 83

[Text] The Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium has decreed that the eighth session of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet of the 10th convocation be convened on 13 January 1984 in Kiev City.

LENINGRAD OBKOM DISCUSSES 1984 DRAFT PLAN

PM121503 Leningrad LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 2 Dec 83 p 1

[LENTASS report: "At the CPSU Obkom"]

[Text] The draft plan for the comprehensive economic and social development of Leningrad City and Oblast for 1984 has been examined at the party obkom. It was emphasized that as a result of the consistent implementation of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums, and the instructions of Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, a good foundation has been laid for successfully resolving the tasks facing Leningraders in the current year and, stepping up the pace, confidently tackling the next year of the 11th 5-Year Plan.

The plan for the comprehensive economic and social development of Leningrad City and Oblast for 1984 will be of great importance in improving the main economic indicators, creating favorable conditions for shock labor, and enhancing the working people's well-being during the new stage. The draft of this document has been elaborated in good time by the Leningrad Gorispolkom and Oblispolkom and their planning commissions together with ministries and departments and the USSR and RSFSR Gosplans. Voters' instructions and working people's proposals have been taken into account in the document.

The draft plan pays special attention to the intensification of Leningrad's economy, the achievement without fail of the targets set for the 11th 5-Year Plan, and the implementation of the long-term tasks set for Leningraders by the 26th CPSU Congress -- to modernize and retool enterprises, increase their specialization in the production of high-grade goods and goods of a superior technical standard, make fuller use of production capacities, increase labor productivity at a preferential rate by comparison with the production growth rate, and also further comprehensively develop the municipal service sectors. It was noted that the resolution on improving comprehensive planning adopted recently by the party Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers provides local soviets and ministries and departments with expanded rights and enhanced responsibility for the well adjusted and coordinated development of Leningrad City and Oblast, which creates new opportunities to increase the intensiveness of and ensure good balance in the draft plan for 1984.

The Leningrad Gorispolkom and Oblispolkom Planning Commissions must adhere to a common approach to the methodology of territorial planning and cooperate more closely in day-to-day practical work in order to ensure the all-around coordination of indicators for the development of Leningrad City and Oblast as an integrated region.

It was pointed out that measures outlined by the party obkom plenum to implement the CPSU Central Committee decisions in the sphere of scientific and technical progress and also the economic and rational utilization of material, manpower, and financial resources must be taken into account more fully in the draft plan. It was deemed expedient to considerably expand the section of the draft plan containing the targets of union-level, sector-level, and territorial-level comprehensive-targeted programs. It is planned to take additional steps to increase the production of consumer goods by more extensively involving enterprises of the heavy and other sectors of industry in the production of consumer and household goods. Corresponding instructions have been issued to compile programs for the concentration and specialization of production, including municipal service sectors.

Special attention was paid to balance between the construction program and the contracting organizations' capacities. It was noted that the potential of the Main Administration for Construction in Western Regions and of ministry and department organizations to increase the construction of housing and cultural facilities is still not being used in full. Tasks in speeding up the construction of the subway and of the hydrotechnical complex, which will protect Leningrad from floods, were defined.

It was acknowledged that it is necessary to improve the comprehensive planning of transport and to coordinate it closely with production and delivery plans and the implementation of the construction program, and also to improve passenger transport.

Targets for the intensification and enhanced efficiency of agriculture were examined. It was noted in particular that the implementation of this course demands a differentiated approach to planning agricultural development, taking into consideration scientifically based zonal systems and soil and climatic conditions. The plan targets must reflect more fully the actual potential for increasing the level of production of crop and livestock products in all the oblast's rayons.

The party obkom instructed the Leningrad Gorispolkom and Oblispolkom to adjust individual sections of the draft plan in light of the discussion that had been held, and to ensure that the draft plan is passed on to all Leningrad City and Oblast rayons, enterprises, and organizations in time.

## N.A. VOZNESENSKIY MEMORIAL PLAQUE UNVEILED

PM121405 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 2 Dec 83 p 3

[Unattributed report: "To the Statesman"]

[Text] A memorial plaque to party and state figure Academician Nikolay Alekseyevich Voznesenskiy (1903-1950) was unveiled on 1 December at No 3 Granovskiy Street. Yesterday was the 80th anniversary of his birth.

Voznesenskiy, a major scientist and economist, made a great contribution to the development of the country's national economy. From 1938 he occupied the position of USSR Gosplan chairman and from 1941 worked as first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

The memorial plaque, done in black granite, is the work of A.B. Samsonov, honored architect of the RSFSR and Lenin Prize winner.

LATVIAN DEPUTY PREMIER DIES 'SUDDENLY'

PM121041 Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 2 Dec 83 p 1

[Text] From the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee, the Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the Council of Ministers of the Latvian SSR.

The Latvian Communist Party Central Committee, the Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the Council of Ministers of the Latvian SSR announce with deep regret that Ivan Vasilevich Bondaletov, member of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee, deputy of the Latvian SSR Supreme Soviet, meritorious worker of Latvian SSR industry, and deputy chairman of the Latvian SSR Council of Ministers, died suddenly on 1 December in his 65th year.

The Latvian Communist Party Central Committee; the Latvian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; and the Latvian SSR Council of Ministers

KALUGA OBKOM CHIEF RETIRES, REPLACED BY ULANOV

PM131622 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian in its 10 December First Edition publishes on page 2 a TASS report entitled "Kaluga CPSU Obkom Plenum," which reads as follows:

"Kaluga, 9 Dec -- A Kaluga party obkom plenum was held today to examine an organizational question. The plenum relieved A.A. Kandrenkov of his duties as first secretary of the CPSU obkom in connection with his retirement.

"G.I. Ulanov, who was working as second secretary of Kaluga party obkom and was elected first secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Party Organizational Work Department, participated in the plenum's work."

This is followed by an unattributed report entitled "Gratitude for Conscientious Work," which reads as follows:

"The CPSU Central Committee Politburo has expressed gratitude to Andrey Andreyevich Kandrenkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee, for his conscientious work for the good of the party and the people."

ABOVYAN RAYKOM DISCUSSES GROWTH, SHORTCOMINGS

GF131900 Yerevan SOVETAKAN AYASTAN in Armenian 16 Nov 83 p 2

[Excerpts] The success in resolving communist construction issues greatly depends on the capability of the party organizations and the standard of their organizational and political work, the creative initiative and activity of each communist and the strengthening of party discipline in all fields of political and public life.

Through directing its activities toward the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the 27th Armenian Communist Party Congress as well as the resolutions of the CPSU Central Committee and the republic's Communist Party Central Committee plenums during the period following the congresses, the Abovyan party raykom has notably elevated the capability of the basic organizations and directed the efforts and powers of the communists and workers toward the solution of the socioeconomic and cultural tasks assignment for the rayon. In 1982, the jubilee year of the 60th anniversary of the USSR formation, the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the All-Union Komsomol Council and Trade Unions Central Committee presented the Order of Red Banner to the rayon for its achievements.

The rayon industry fulfilled the past 3 years of state plans for the production volume and output sales ahead of schedule and secured a 41-percent growth compared to 1980. A total of R9.7-million-worth of products has been produced over the plan during those years. The achievements are also notable this year. The 10-month plan for production and output sales was fulfilled on 25 October. During that period a total of R4.5-million-worth of output has been produced and the growth compared to the same period of last year was up 14 percent, which notably exceeds the republic's average. Productivity compared to that of last year increased by 11 percent and meant R15-million-worth of output has been produced.

There are also notable changes in capital construction, transport, trade, consumer services, and other fields of health and services. During the past 3 years a total of R103.3-million-worth of capital construction was carried out in the rayon, out of which R67 million was for construction and installations work. A total of R81.5 million of fixed capital was commissioned. The contract work targets were fulfilled and over-fulfilled during the past years of the 11th 5-Year Plan period; in 1981 by 106.6 percent, in 1982 by 116 percent and during the past 10 months of the 1983 by 102.7 percent. During those years 105,000 square meters of residential areas, schools to accommodate 2,132 students and preschool establishments to accomodate 650 children were constructed and commissioned.

The successes are also notable in agricultural production. Serious and balanced work has been carried out to base agriculture on industrial methods and the material and technical basis of agriculture has been strengthened. The total sales of agriculture output during the past 3 years has totalled R-68.5 million. The growth compared to the same period of the previous 5-year plan period is put at 35 percent. A total of 22,470 tons of grain, 17,125 tons of vegetables, 13,000 tons of fruit, 3,160 tons of tobacco, 6,840 tons of meat, 34,370 tons of milk and 15.6 million eggs were produced.

At the same time the conference discussed the shortcomings in the work of the initial party organizations and soviet and economic organs. It concentrated on issues and problems requiring quick solutions. Practical recommendations were made for the elevation of the ideological and political education standard and the achievement of work quality and productivity in all locations. Serious critical remarks were directed at the Abovyan Construction Materials Combine, and the party organization and administration of the wood-processing factory because the work and technological discipline standards are not high, the mobilization power for socialist emulation is not being used fully, the available expertise is not being implemented, importance is not being given to the mechanization and automation of the production processes, and the losses of work time are great.

The conference criticized the trade leaders and party organizations for the serious shortcomings in the organization of the trade services to the population and the insufficient struggle against speculation and exploitation.

The conference paid great attention to the further elevation of the role of economic leaders and basic party organizations, the strengthening of ideological and political work, the improvement of the activities of the administrative organs, and the strengthening of the struggle against values strange to our people.

The conference affirmed that the basic organizations and all the communists and workers will increase efforts to secure high quality of work and fulfill the economic and cultural construction issues laid before the rayon with honor. The conference elected the new structure of the party raykom and the supervising commission.

ENFORCEMENT OF QUALITY CONTROL EXAMINED

PM131236 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 13 Dec 83 p 2

[A. Mkhitaryan report: "Spoiled Output: Material and Moral Losses"]

[Text] Moscow -- A coordinating conference of leaders of law enforcement and monitoring organs and a number of ministries and departments devoted to questions of the struggle for output quality has been held at the USSR Prosecutor's Office.

A report was delivered by G. Tarnavskiy, chief of the General Supervision Administration and Collegium member of the USSR Prosecutor's Office, and additional reports were delivered by I. Isayev, deputy chairman of the USSR State Standards Committee, and N. Zarubin, USSR first deputy chief state arbiter.

The results of the conference were summed up by USSR General Prosecutor A. Rekunkov.

The number and proportion of goods with enhanced technical and economic indicators are increasing from year to year in the country. Some 85,000 different products have been awarded the honorific pentagonal seal. But production of poor-quality output is still a widespread phenomenon.

It is possible to name many causes giving rise to spoiled output -- shortcomings in design decisions, the use of defective equipment, failure to observe technological discipline. But there are causes that do not lie in engineering and technical problems -- lack of thrift, diligence, and responsibility.

How much, then, does bad work cost? During the half-year many millions of rubles were excluded from reports on the fulfillment of plans by enterprises checked by USSR State Standards Committee organs in the country because of low output quality.

During the first 10 months of this year hundreds of thousands of television sets, tape recorders, refrigerators, and washing machines were repaired under guarantee. What does this mean? That it was virtually a "guarantee" of...bad quality.

It happens that plans constantly produce defective machine tools and motor vehicles, tractors and grain-harvesting combines, television sets and vacuum cleaners, while there are people in those selfsame enterprises who, according to their official duties, have no right to give them a "pass" -- that is, technical control department workers.

But the technical control department is the final link in the chain. And, of course, it is a bad thing that its workers are far from always real controllers and display unscrupulousness or lack of awareness. But paramount responsibility lies on the conscience of the immediate producers and the enterprise leaders.

Prosecutor's office organs have recently intensified supervision of the fulfillment of laws that envisage penalties for poor-quality output. Over the course of 18 months, actions have been brought for the recovery of several million rubles from specific officials, and criminal proceedings have been instituted against a considerable number of them. Joint checks by prosecutor's office organs with the participation of State Arbitration Board and State Standards Committee workers are increasingly widely becoming the practice. The results of comprehensive checks, as was pointed out at the conference, are effective -- the enterprises where they were conducted improved output quality.

Economic sanctions are being applied increasingly frequently to enterprises producing spoiled output: a ban on the production of faulty output until violations are eliminated, the return of defective goods, the removal of an article's seal of quality or "N" index.

But still millions (!) of pairs of leather footwear, meters of cloth, sewn and knitted goods, and articles of underwear lie in wholesale bases and depots. Unmarketable goods. Badly made and out of date.

Thousands of workers turning out spoiled goods year after year are engaged in pointless work, devalued by the low quality of the end product. When we speak of faulty, spoiled output we are talking about something that concerns every one of us personally, whether it is a question of a washing machine that does not want to wash, a vacuum cleaner that refuses to pick up dust, a car that has to be repaired more often than you drive it, or a combine from which a nut flies off in the middle of an unharvested field because it was being held on by a piece of cardboard.

The leader of an enterprise producing substandard output complains of obsolete equipment. But then they replace the equipment with the latest imported equipment. And what happens? Does spoilage cease? No. it does not! Because, although it is difficult to retool a shop or a plant, it is still easier than eradicating indiscipline, laziness, dishonesty, criminal negligence, and indifference. Organizational and training errors are frequently what lies behind the concept of "poor-quality output." So it is impossible to resolve economic and management questions in isolation from training tasks.

It was emphasized at the conference that monitoring of observance of the thrift policy and the struggle for improved output quality and stronger labor discipline are closely linked with ensuring the preservation of socialist property. Violations of standards and technological processes are frequently a source of machinations for embezzlers of public property. It is necessary to step up state, sector, and social control so that any attempt at embezzlement is nipped in the bud.

Indulgence of slipshod workers, conciliatoriness, and the championing of parochial interests to the detriment of state interests are incompatible with a successful struggle for quality, it was stated at the conference. The strictest measures of economic and legal influence against enterprises producing faulty output must be combined with a principled, intolerant attitude to every instance of mismanagement and negligence and every specific producer of spoiled output. The range of influence is wide -- ranging from public censure to exacting compensation for damage from the wages of persons guilty of producing poor-quality goods. Slipshod workers who disorganize production, not to mention embezzlers, must know that they will inevitably have to bear responsibility, even criminal responsibility.

The conference at the USSR Prosecutor's Office convincingly showed that what is needed is still more efficient coordination of the work of law enforcement organs and still closer contacts between them and the monitoring and other organs, in order to actively influence the resolution of one of the most important questions of improving the economic machinery -- that of improving quality.